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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE dismemberment of Denmark by Prussia and Austria continues to occupy the attention of our newspapers, as well it may. The *Times* and other journals say now that if it could have been foreseen from the first that Prussia and Austria only wished to rescue Schleswig and Holstein from Denmark

in order to take possession of those provinces themselves, they would not have been opposed with diplomatic weapons alone. Denmark quite understood the meaning of the Prusso-Austrian invasion, but the Danes were not believed when they declared that its true object was to partition the territory of their King between the two great leaders of

Germany—by whom the German patriots have been deceived as much as anyone else. English politicians would, no doubt, be glad to forget the Danish question altogether, but it is now forcing itself in an irresistible manner upon them again. The official notification of the separation of Schleswig from Holstein has only just been



THE FRENCH FLEET AT PORTSMOUTH: PRESENTATIONS TO THE DUKE OF SOMERSET IN THE BALL-ROOM AT THE NAVAL COLLEGE.

communicated to the various European Governments, and Lord Russell has already had the satisfaction of sending a sharp note on the subject to Berlin. Our Foreign Minister is "glad to hear that the arrangement is only temporary," leaving it to be inferred that he should condemn it strongly if a permanent character were given to it. The French Government has taken notice of the result of the Gastein meeting in a similar tone, and, according to one French journal, has added that the partition of "Schleswig-Holstein" by the pretended defenders of its unity is an act "unworthy of the nineteenth century." This, however, will scarcely frighten M. Bismarck von Schönhausen, who knows that the nineteenth century is not so good as it is painted, and that Prussia can seize a portion of Denmark with impunity in the present day, as it seized a portion of Silesia and a portion of Poland with impunity a hundred years ago.

The affair of poor Ott, the cook, is getting more serious, and something may now be made out of the affair if the French Government really desire it. The population of Alsace has petitioned the Emperor to see that justice is done to the man who is freely spoken of in the English newspapers as "M. Ott's murderer." Count Eulenburg has behaved very scandalously, but we do not think he can fairly be described as an assassin. He killed a man in a street fight, and, if the latest German account be true (which however is, to say the least, doubtful), never struck him at all with his sabre, but only with his scabbard—the sabre having somehow or other been lost or stolen during the fray.

But the case is a good case as it stands if the French Government wish to make it a ground of quarrel with Prussia. A French subject has been killed by a Prussian and the Prussian has not been fairly tried—indeed, according to some Prussian versions, has not been brought before any tribunal at all; while, according to others, he has been examined in secret before a military court, and, after a brief inquiry, sent to join his regiment. When the first natural burst of indignation on the part of our well-meaning contemporaries is at an end, they will perhaps ask themselves, not how officers and soldiers committing offences against the common law are proceeded against in England, but how, under such circumstances, they are dealt with in France? In France—which, like Prussia, is an ultra-military country—all misdeeds committed by members of the army are referred to courts-martial. Most certainly, such an act as Count Eulenburg has been guilty of in Prussia would not be passed over in France; but we make a mistake all the same in looking upon the matter entirely from an English point of view. England is one of the few countries in Europe in which military offenders are made responsible to civil tribunals, and France cannot possibly adopt towards Prussia the line of conduct, however modified to suit the tone of diplomacy, which England in a similar case might pursue. We do not believe for one moment that France will go to war with Prussia either for the sake of M. Ott or for the sake of the slice of territory on the Rhine which M. Ott's mother-country would, of course, award to herself by way of damages, if she could only compel the country of M. Ott's assailant to cede it. But if France were quite sure that in attacking Prussia she would have, from the beginning to the end of the war, to fight Prussia alone, the manslaughter of M. Ott, unpunished and apparently uncared for by the Prussian Government, would be a tempting incident on which to base a quarrel; while the recent spoliation of Denmark by this same Government is a precedent that can always be made use of to prove that a country has no legal frontiers at all, and that its limits are to be fixed by force alone.

Last year and the year before all Europe—indeed, the whole civilised world on both sides of the Atlantic—was agitated by wars and rumours of wars. Now pestilence, famine, and sufferings of all kinds, except those which proceed directly from armed strife, are afflicting the nations of the earth. In America the liberated negro finds himself free to die of hunger, and some forty thousand are said to have starved since the termination of the war; while, counting from the commencement of the American struggle, the number of negroes who have perished from one cause and another is estimated at about one half of the black population of the Southern States. Upon Russia a most mysterious evil has fallen. Fires are spreading over the land in such a manner that incendiary visits every town and village, though hitherto scarcely one incendiary has been discovered. These conflagrations, of which Lithuania and other parts of Russian Poland have been the scene, as well as Russia Proper, have lately assumed frightful proportions; and the Russian newspapers write of them in a thoroughly panic-stricken spirit, some of them attributing the fires to political causes, others to the existence of bands of malefactors, who apparently burn houses down from a mere love of arson. As regards the fires in Russia Proper, in the absence of well-ascertained facts, they are to us inexplicable. With reference to those which are constantly occurring in Russian Poland it is not astonishing, where whole villages have been destroyed, and the plough passed over the ground on which they stood, by Mouravieff; where estates have been confiscated in the most arbitrary manner, and the land of the proprietors distributed among the peasants almost at random, that all respect for law should have ceased, and that outrages of all kinds against property should be committed. The barbarous manner in which the Polish insurrection was suppressed entails consequences that were never expected by the Russians; and it is just possible, after all, that the partition of Denmark may lead to results which at this moment the Prussians are far from anticipating.

VISIT OF THE FRENCH FLEET TO PORTSMOUTH.

WE this week illustrate our pages with a few more Engravings connected with the late visit of the French fleet to Portsmouth. The first of these Engravings is the

PRESENTATIONS TO THE DUKE OF SOMERSET.

This ceremony took place after the conclusion of the banquet, and before the commencement of the ball given by his Grace, as representing the British Admiralty authorities, in the marquee erected in the grounds of the Royal Naval College. The Duke took his stand upon a slightly-elevated platform, and the various guests, as they paraded past, paid their respects to the "First Lord," who of course bowed his acknowledgments of the compliments offered to him. Some more direct introductions of course took place; but the great bulk of the guests contented themselves with a passing salute.

On the day after the arrival of the fleet the French Minister and Admirals inspected the dockyard, accompanied by the Duke of Somerset, a visit having also been paid to Nelson's celebrated flagship at the Battle of Trafalgar, the Victory. The spot on the quarterdeck where the great Admiral received his death-wound, and the cockpit in which he breathed his last, were both seen by the representatives of that naval Power which in his lifetime he did so much to thwart, and which, on the day of his death, he virtually crushed; and these visible testimonials to the valour and the prowess of the most formidable adversary whom France ever met upon the ocean cannot have failed to excite in the breasts of the French Admirals profound emotion. The Victory is always visited by an Englishman with pardonable pride, but Frenchmen may equally regard that memorial of the greatest of our naval heroes and of our naval victories with those feelings which cannot fail to inspire one brave nation when paying a tribute to the gallantry of another.

THE BANQUETING-HALL ON GOVERNOR'S-GREEN.

It was arranged that the civic entertainments should consist of a banquet, followed by a promenade concert, and concluding with a ball. These entertainments, as mentioned in our last, took place in a marquee on Governor's-green, of which our Engraving shows the exterior, and which was described at some length in our last week's Number. The buildings—if, for want of a better word, we may be permitted to use that term—consisted of a spacious vestibule opening into a circular marquee, which in its turn communicated by a wide corridor with the ball and banqueting-room, which crossed its extremity at right angles; the interior throughout was lined with canvas, arranged in alternate stripes of red and white, and decorated with a multitude of flags and banners—the floor, with the exception of the upper portion of the banqueting-room, which was carpeted, being covered with white canvas. From the top were suspended a number of gaseliers, whilst the poles supporting the canvas roof were surrounded at their base with a profusion of plants and flowers. The end of that portion which constituted the ball-room was decorated with a rockery, with a fountain and cascade, the rocks being gilt, so as to present the appearance of immense nuggets. The general effect, which was sufficiently pretty by daylight, became still further enhanced when the gas was lit and the ladies began to assemble for the ball.

THE REVIEW ON SOUTH-SEA-COMMON.

Some little diffidence was entertained by the military authorities in respect to holding a review at which not more than 4000 men would be assembled. In France military spectacles are for the most part on a scale of considerable magnitude, and it was thought by many that a review in which those troops only which are quartered in Portsmouth and its neighbourhood would take a part would suffer so much by comparison in the eyes of our friends that it had much better not take place at all. Although these conjectures were not unreasonable, they proved to be groundless, for although the force on the ground was not considerable, we doubt if any other spectacle afforded so much satisfaction to the officers of the French fleet. The day was fine, the evolutions of the troops were performed with rapidity and precision, and we don't think a fairer sample could have been selected from the ranks of the British army than the several corps which were upon the ground. All branches of the service, with the exception of cavalry, were represented.

The troops began to make their appearance on South-Sea-common about half-past eleven o'clock, and by noon they were drawn up in a line running through the midst of the Common parallel with the Clarence Esplanade. The French Minister of Marine, with his staff, the Lords of the Admiralty, the Admirals of the allied fleets, and a large number of naval officers, took up their position at each side of the saluting flag, which was posted near to the Esplanade, and directly opposite the centre of the line of troops, whilst the carriage-ways, which mark the sides of the Common and skirt the beach, were lined with spectators. The troops, which were under the command of General Buller, were thus composed:—Two batteries of field artillery, of six guns each, occupying the respective flanks; two brigades of Royal Artillery, a battalion of Royal Marine Artillery, one of Royal Marine Light Infantry, and the following regiments of the Line—the 14th, 52nd, 75th, 81st, and 87th. A salute having been fired along the whole line, the troops marched past in slow and quick time, and subsequently several evolutions took place, in the course of which, as is usual on such occasions, a considerable quantity of powder was burnt. When the troops began to march off the ground the people crowded round the carriages in which the French officers were seated, and long and loud were the cheers given in honour of our guests and of the alliance between the two countries. Pre-eminently distinguishable amongst the French officers was the chaplain of the fleet, in the violet-coloured robes of a Roman Catholic Bishop, which, as Canon of St. Denis, he is privileged to wear. He attracted particular attention, and none responded more enthusiastically to the rather noisy and importunate compliments which the bystanders eagerly paid to their distinguished visitors.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

Prince Amadens of Italy arrived in Paris on Tuesday morning, and was received at the railway station by the Chevalier di Nigra and the personnel of the Italian Legation. The Prince alighted at the Grand Hotel, and afterwards started for Meudon.

France, it seems, has given Austria and Prussia a sharp rebuke, although not in a direct form, touching their Schleswig-Holstein compact. No protest has been addressed to the German great Powers; but the French Government has dispatched a circular note to its diplomatic agents, analysing the character of the Gastein Convention in a style which must make glad the heart of Denmark. A Brussels paper professes to publish the text of the despatch. According to this version the French Government declares the Gastein Convention indefensible, whether viewed as a violation of treaty arrangements, a betrayal of German national interests, a wrong done to a rightful claimant, or an infringement of the principle of nationalities. The one only satisfactory feature which the French Government finds in the Convention is that it professes to be only a conditional and temporary arrangement.

The *Patrie* states that Earl Russell has addressed a circular note to the British agents abroad, in which his Lordship expresses the same views upon the Gastein Convention as the Cabinet of the Tuileries, and in which he declares textually that the Convention is an act deserving of blame and unworthy of the present age.

SPAIN.

The Queen of Spain has returned from her visit to the Emperor and Empress of the French, having arrived at Vittoria on Tuesday evening. Some changes are expected to take place in the Ministry. The Minister of Finance is busily engaged in a project for the secularisation of church property. The cholera is said to be showing marked signs of decrease in all the towns in Spain where it had made its appearance.

AUSTRIA.

An Imperial decree has been published dissolving the old Transylvanian Diet, and convoking a new Diet on the 19th of November next. The exclusive and only subject to be discussed by the new Diet is the revision of the law of 1848 on the basis of the union between Hungary and Transylvania on the basis of the common interests of both countries. Field Marshal Lieutenant Count Creneville is appointed the Government Commissioner of the Diet.

ITALY.

A Royal decree, dated the 7th inst., has been issued, dissolving the Chamber of Deputies, and fixing the convocation of the Electoral Colleges for the 22nd of October, the second voting, should it be necessary, taking place on the 29th of the same month. The Senate and Chamber of Deputies are to assemble at Florence on the 15th of November.

The intelligence received at Naples to the 5th inst. respecting the cholera is very satisfactory. The epidemic was decreasing at all the points of its visitation. The latest bulletin from Foggia announced two cases and one death. While, however, cholera decreased, cases of periodical fevers became more numerous. Naples and its environs were perfectly healthy. At San Severo, from the 6th to the 7th inst., there were thirteen cases and three deaths from previous attack. At Ancona during the same period there had been no new case, but four deaths from previous attacks.

THE UNITED STATES.

We have news from New York to the 2nd inst. the most interesting item of which, perhaps, is the statement that Jefferson Davis is to be tried in a United States Circuit Court, probably at Norfolk, before Mr. Chief Justice Chase. It is added that General Butler is about to be appointed to assist the Attorney-General in conducting the prosecution. It appears that Mr. Davis continues to be strictly guarded, and that he is not allowed the privilege of correspondence, except with the counsel engaged in his defence.

Another very important announcement is that the cotton crop is likely to be less than half an average.

President Johnson has issued a proclamation removing all restrictions on trade with the southern States.

The telegram has two or three paragraphs which show that difficulties continue to spring up in the way of perfect union and good government in the South; but these obstacles are no more than might have been anticipated. It is noteworthy that the citizens of Richmond have been holding a meeting to protest against the doubts as to their loyalty expressed by the Northern papers. In addition to this they suggested that similar meetings should be held all over the South. That there might be no mistake about the matter, they specially included the abolition of slavery in the list of measures with which they were quite satisfied.

At the New Jersey Democratic State Convention General Remyan was unanimously nominated Governor. The resolutions passed attributed the war to the fanaticism of the Abolitionists and the election of a sectional President. They advocated the States' rights doctrine, agreed with President Johnson that negro suffrage must be left to the decisions of the States individually, and considered the national debt onerous and improperly managed.

The Hon. Montgomery Blair, in a speech at Clarksville, Maryland, on the 26th ult., declared that Mr. Seward, after his appointment to Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet, co-operated with Mr. Stanton and others of President Buchanan's Administration in countenancing and encouraging the rebellion. He denounced Thaddeus Stevens's proposition at the late Republican Convention in Pennsylvania to divide the southern lands among soldiers and negroes; and argued that since slavery, the cause of rebellion, had been for ever eradicated, no further penalty could justly be inflicted on the southern people; and that even Judge Campbell, Vice-President Stephens, and other leading Confederates, ought to be forgiven.

The trial of Wirtz continued, though not without some hitches. The State is going to prosecute Ketchum, the fraudulent banker.

The Shenandoah is said to be still continuing her piratical career in the Pacific. She had captured and destroyed many whalers. The Federal steamer *Saranac* left Esquimalt, British Columbia, on the 23rd ult., in search of the Shenandoah. The steamer *Suwanee* arrived at Esquimalt on the 24th, and was to speedily join in search.

MEXICO.

A despatch from Vera Cruz, dated the 14th of August, states that the Imperialists had re-entered Tacambero, completely routing the Republican army and capturing all its artillery. The town of Zongolica, in Orizaba, had, however, declared against the Empire. Advice received at Paris from Mexico to the 11th of August, announce that the Imperial troops had been victorious in an engagement near Tezan, but had received a slight check at Almacatlan. At the latter place twenty-five Austrian lancers and a company of Mexican infantry were compelled to surrender to the Juaristas. Meanwhile, it is asserted that the Emperor Maximilian is desirous of standing better with the United States Government, and has determined on sending an official personage to Washington.

BRITISH AMERICA.

The Executive Government of New Brunswick have addressed the Lieutenant-Governor in opposition to the scheme of confederation, to which they say the inhabitants of that colony are as much opposed as ever, and hope they will not be coerced into the scheme against their will. Mr. Cardwell, in his reply, expresses a hope that the New Brunswickers will yet see reason to change their minds and approve of the confederation.

TREATMENT OF FEDERAL PRISONERS.

MUCH controversy and recrimination have for months past been going on between the adherents of the North and South as to the treatment of prisoners during the late war in America. One consequence of this controversy is the prosecution of Captain Wirtz by the Washington Government, and Mr. J. P. Benjamin, who recently arrived in this country, and who officiated during the greater part of the war as Mr. Jefferson Davis's Secretary of State, has addressed the following letter on the subject to the *Times*:—

Sir,—I find on arrival in England that public attention is directed afresh to the accusation made by the Federal authorities that prisoners of war were cruelly treated by the Confederates, not merely in exceptional cases by subordinate officials, but systematically, and in conformity with a policy deliberately adopted by President Davis, General Lee, and Mr. Seddon. As a member of the Cabinet of President Davis from the date of his first inauguration under the Provisional Constitution to the final overthrow of the Confederate Government by force of arms, as a personal friend whose relations with Jefferson Davis have been of the most intimate and confidential nature, I feel it imperatively to be my duty to request your insertion of this letter in vindication of honourable men, who, less fortunate than myself, are now held in close confinement by their enemies, and are unable to utter an indignant word in self-defence.

During the difficulties which prevented the exchange of prisoners of war, cases arose which appealed so strongly to humanity that it was impossible for the most obturate to remain insensible. The Federal authorities, therefore, empowered Colonel Mulford, their Commissioner of Exchange, to consent to a mutual delivery of such sick and disabled prisoners as were incapable of performing military service. To this class was the exchange of prisoners rigorously restricted. Colonel Ould, the Confederate Commissioner of Exchange (who has recently been honourably acquitted by the Federals themselves of the same false charge of cruelty to prisoners), made to the President, to the Secretary of War, and to myself repeated complaints that prisoners on both sides were frequently delivered in a condition so prostrate as to render death certain from exposure during the transit between James River and Washington or Annapolis. Efforts were made in vain to check this evil. In spite of surgeons' certificates that they were too ill for removal without imminent danger, sick men on both sides, wearied by long confinement, fearful that the exchange would again be interrupted, longing for the sight of home and friends, would either insist on their ability to endure the journey, or, professing that recovery was hopeless, would piteously implore to be allowed to see their families before death. The lifeless bodies of numbers of Confederates shipped from the north under these circumstances were delivered to us at City Point, and the like results attended the delivery from our side. Rigid care was taken by the authorities of the United States to exclude from the exchange all cases of slight illness, in accordance with their avowed policy of preventing our armies from being recruited by returned prisoners, this being our only resource for filling our thinned ranks, while they were able to procure unlimited recruits from this side of the Atlantic.

From the class just mentioned the most emaciated specimens were chosen by our enemies, and exhibited as conclusive evidence that we exercised habitual cruelty towards prisoners of war. "The most wretched and desperate cases were even made the originals for 'photographs which cannot lie,' and the revolting pictures of human infirmity thus procured were affixed as embellishments to sensational reports manipulated by Congressional Committees and Sanitary Commissions."

It is not my purpose to examine in detail the question whether on us or on the Federals rests the responsibility of interrupting the exchange of prisoners, and thus producing a mass of human misery and anguish of which few examples can be found in history. The published correspondence of the Commissioners of Exchange, and certain revelations made by Federal officials in public speeches and in newspaper articles, will be sufficient to satisfy on this point the few who take the pains to ascertain the truth; but in response to the allegations imputed in the latest news from America to General Hitchcock, that "for the delays in exchanging, and the consequent sufferings of the prisoners, the fault rested entirely with the Confederates," I would recall the following facts:—

The first effort to establish a cartel of exchange was made by the Confederates when I was temporarily in charge of the War Office at Richmond, towards the close of the Provisional Government. General Howell Cobb on our part, and General Wool on the part of the United States, agreed on a cartel which was submitted to their respective Governments for approval. In my instructions to General Cobb he was specially directed to propose that after exhausting exchanges the party having surplus prisoners in possession should allow them to go home on parole till the other belligerent should succeed in capturing an equivalent number for exchange. When this proposal was made by us we held a larger number of prisoners than were in the hands of the enemy. It was accepted by General Wool as one of the terms of the cartel; but, unfortunately, some successes of our enemies intervened before ratification by their Government. They obtained, in their turn, an excess of prisoners, and at once refused to ratify the cartel. In the ensuing year, while General Randolph was Secretary of War, the Confederates were a second time in possession of an excess of prisoners, and succeeded in negotiating a cartel under which they liberated many thousands of prisoners on parole without any present equivalent, thus securing in advance the liberation of a like number of their own soldiers that might afterwards fall into the enemy's hands. This cartel remained for many months in operation. No check nor difficulty occurred as long as we made a majority of captures.

In July, 1863, the fortune of war became very adverse to the Confederacy. The Battle of Gettysburg checked the advance of General Lee on the Federal capital, while almost simultaneously the fall of Vicksburg and Port Hudson gave to our enemies a large preponderance in the number of prisoners. The authorities at Washington immediately issued general orders refusing to receive from General Lee the prisoners held by him until they should be reduced to possession in Virginia, thus subjecting their own men to the terrible sufferings glanced at by Colonel Freemantle in order to embarrass General Lee's movements. They further refused to restore to us the excess of prisoners held by them, after having received for nearly or quite a year the benefit of the special provision of the cartel when it operated in their favour, and during the entire war they never once consented to a delivery to us of any prisoners in excess of the number for which we were prepared to return an immediate equivalent.

It requires no sagacity to perceive that every motive of interest as well as of humanity operated to induce us to facilitate the exchange of prisoners, and to submit even to unjust and unequal terms in order to recover soldiers whom we could replace from no other source. On the other hand, interest and humanity were at war in their influence on the Federal officials. Others must judge of the humanity and justice of the policy which consigned hundreds of thousands of wretched men to captivity apparently hopeless; but I can testify unhesitatingly to its sagacity and efficacy, and to the pitiless sternness with which it was executed. Indeed, this refusal to exchange was one of the most fatal blows dealt us during the war, and contributed to our overthrow more, perhaps, than any other single measure. I write not to make complaint of it, but simply to protest against the attempt of the Federals so to divide the consequences of their own conduct as to throw on us the odium attached to a cruelty plainly injurious to us, obviously beneficial to themselves.

The sense of duty which prompts this letter would be but imperfectly satisfied were I to withhold at this juncture the testimony which none so well as myself can offer in relation to the charge of inhumanity made against President Davis. For the four years during which I have been one of his most trusted advisers, the recipient of his confidence, the sharer, to the best of my abilities, in his labours and responsibilities, I have learnt to know him better, perhaps, than he is known by any other living man. Neither in private conversation nor in Cabinet Council have I ever heard him utter one unworthy thought, one ungenerous sentiment. On repeated occasions when the savage atrocities of such men as Butler, Turchin, McNeill, and others were the subject of anxious consideration, and when it was urged upon Jefferson Davis, not only by friends in private letters but by members of his Cabinet in council, that it was his duty to the people and to the army to endeavour to repress such outrages by retaliation, he was immovable in his resistance to such counsels, insisting that it was repugnant to every sentiment of justice and humanity that the innocent should be made victims for the crimes of such monsters. Without betraying the confidence of official intercourse, it may be permitted me to say that when the notorious expedition of Dahlgren against the city of Richmond had been defeated, and the leader killed in his flight, the papers found upon his body showed that he had been engaged in an attempt to assassinate the President and the heads of the Cabinet, to release the Federal prisoners confined in Richmond, to set fire to the city, and to let loose his men and the released prisoners, with full licence to gratify their passions on the helpless inhabitants.

The instructions to his men had been elaborately prepared, and his designs communicated to them in an address; the incendiary materials for firing the town formed part of his equipment. The proof was complete and undeniable. In the action in which Dahlgren fell some of his men were taken prisoners. They were brought to Richmond, and public opinion was unanimous that they were not entitled to be considered as prisoners of war; that they ought to be put on trial as brigands and assassins, and executed as such if found guilty. In Cabinet Council the conviction was expressed that these men had acquired no immunity from punishment for their crimes, if guilty, by the fact of their having been admitted to surrender by their captors before knowledge of their offences. A discussion ensued which became so heated as almost to create unfriendly feeling, by reason of the unshaken firmness of Mr. Davis in maintaining that, although these men merited a refusal to grant them quarter in the heat of battle, they had been received to mercy by their captors, as prisoners of war, and as such were sacred; and that we should be dishonoured if harm should overtake them after their surrender, the acceptance of which constituted, in his judgment, a pledge that they should receive the treatment of prisoners of war. To Jefferson Davis alone, and to his constancy of purpose, did these men owe their safety, in spite of hostile public opinion, and in opposition to two thirds of the Cabinet.

THE TYPHUS HARVEST.

MR. HORACE JEAFFRESON, M.B., of the London Fever Hospital, has addressed a most important letter to the *Times* on the subject of the sources of typhus fever, from which the following are extracts:—

"Sir,—While in the minds of many of your readers the period of the completion of harvest is associated with important questions as to the yield of various crops and the prices of produce, my mind is concerned with far other ideas, referring to a very different harvest, in which the reaper shall be Death, and many of its victims the very men who have gathered in the produce of the year. The season will soon be here when the numerous labourers who have been employed during the summer and autumn months in harvesting and other outdoor occupations will flock back to London. This year, as in the three former ones, they will come to typhus-infected localities, and, by adding still further to their overcrowded state, both increase the cause of disease and themselves fall victims to it. During the summer months there has been an appreciable reduction in the amount of typhus in some parts of London. Already this abatement is passing off, and the coming winter threatens to be a mortal one to the London poor."

"It is with a view to give the medical officers of health and those interested in the state of the poor a knowledge of the chief centres of infection that I now write. In ordinary language, 'an epidemic' of typhus is said to exist, and truly it does so; for while in the year 1860 only 391 patients were received into this hospital, the average annual admissions for the last three years have been 2800. During the present year 2200 have already been admitted. I agree in the main that the germs of the zymotic diseases are almost constantly present among us, but only show their activity when allowed to accumulate beyond a certain point, under circumstances favourable for their work. We are only at liberty to rest content with the theory of mysterious atmospheric causation when these attendant circumstances have been eliminated. I feel convinced that the statistics given below will tend to clear up much of the mystery in relation to typhus, which, more than any other disease, commits its really fearful ravages aided by the cupidity of man. I use the words 'fearful ravages' advisedly, and, after being made acquainted with the following facts, I do not think that any of your readers will accuse me of exaggeration. During the great prevalence of typhus, since the commencement of 1862, 1864 persons have died of that disease at the London Fever

Hospital alone. I have made a calculation which shows that during the same period at least 440 deaths from typhus have occurred at those general hospitals which admit a certain number of such cases. To these two items must be added the deaths that have resulted from typhus at the homes of the sick, and at those workhouses where the fever has been treated. These at a moderate computation would swell the amount to about 2300 deaths. At the known rate of mortality this number of fatal cases would represent 16,100 persons attacked by typhus. It is idle to scare the community with accounts of cholera on the shores of the Mediterranean, while a pestilence nearly as fatal commits its ravages almost unheeded at our very doors. The old adage concerning the "bird in the hand" is reversed. Still, by all means, let us prepare for cholera; for the steps taken to cleanse, ventilate, and supply water to the typhus nests of the present will effectually lessen the number of cholera nests of the future. The two birds will be killed with one stone."

"It will be seen by the statements below that for months and years together typhus patients are brought from the same spots to this hospital. I do not hesitate to state my conviction that, if proper powers were given to and exercised by sanitary inspectors and medical officers of health, no such thing would be known, and at least two thirds of the typhus of London would be suppressed. For such an enormous good to result, officers of health would have onerous duties to perform, such as could hardly be done in the intervals of medical practice. They should form their main occupation, and be well remunerated. They should hold office under Government, to whom they should be responsible, instead of to the vestries, who are sometimes able and willing to baffle the best energies of their 'dependant.'"

"Although in the parish of St. George, Southwark, fever has been raging for the last three years, it was not till July, 1864, that the fever-stricken were removed to this hospital. Mr. W. Rendle, the medical officer of health, found himself as such powerless in the hands of the most supine of vestries. He resigned his post, and got himself elected a vestryman. In that capacity, with a small minority, he has for months been urging the necessity of cleansing the habitations of the poor, but without success. The picture he draws in the *South London Chronicle* of the 19th ult. of the filthy dilapidation and entire, or almost entire, absence of water in whole blocks of miserable dwellings is shocking, and fully accounts for the statistics he publishes, which are gathered from the records of this hospital and the parish books. Thus he states that in 1860 the deaths from typhus in his parish were 25; in 1861, 27; in 1862, 48; in 1863, 88; in 1864, 113; and in the first seven months of 1865 they amounted to 128. These represent no less than 3000 cases of fever. When, in the autumn of 1864, the victims of typhus were first sent here they came from Mint-street, Westcott-street, Etham-street, Friar-street, Red Cross-street, Lant-street, Webber-row, and the neighbourhood of Lansdowne-place and Clarence-street. Patients brought from the same squalid dwellings are still filling our beds, yet Mr. Rendle assures us nothing is being done to remedy the evil. No cleansing, no lime-whitening, and, in many cases, not a tap of water for the use of several dwellings. While the attractive details of personal homicide are supplied and read with avidity, the evidences of this wholesale murder—for it is nothing else—are allowed to remain as obscure as the hard-working victims of the crime."

"The parish of Limehouse, in the Stepney Union, affords a strong instance of where typhus has held, and still holds, undisputed sway—viz., St. John's-court. In April, 1865, two cases of that fever came from No. 2 in the court; in May the disease spread to No. 5, whence six typhus patients were sent here; in June another case came from the same address; July furnished five cases from No. 1, and in August three more were brought in from No. 5; also, in August, eight cases of typhus came from Nos. 23, 25, 30, and 32, North-street. We have also been receiving cases from Gill-street, St. James's-street, and St. Ann-street. From March, 1863, to the spring of the present year the guardians of Stepney had their fever cases treated in a special building of their own. While this experiment lasted we have no records of their fever haunts; but on searching the register for 1862 and the first quarter of 1863 the names of North-street, Gill-street, St. James's-street, and St. Ann-street are again conspicuous. While I write, patients are being received from the two former of these streets."

"The guardians of St. Luke's, Middlesex, used to treat their fever patients in the workhouse. Disasters caused by this plan induced them, in January last, to send the cases here. Since then upwards of 100 typhus patients have been admitted from that parish. Of these, twenty have come from Golden-lane, and ten from London-passage. The rest have been supplied from courts lying around Golden-lane and Whitecross-street, of which the most noteworthy are Camden-court, Playhouse-yard, Whitehorse-court, Bell-alley, Little Arthur-street, and Wakefield-place."

"Since May last typhus has been rife in Rose-alley, East London union. Cases have been sent from it in the course of each of the last four months. Nos. 5, 6, 8, and 10 are the infected houses. Thompson's-tenants is also a spot in the same district where fever is constantly recurring. In the parish of Shoreditch, 'Blue Ball,' Horseshoe-alley, demands attention. On Aug. 22 three typhus patients were sent from that house, members of three different families. On Aug. 30 another case came from the same house. Boundary-place and Duncan-court, Boundary-street are also infected by typhus, and have been so for the last five months. In the parish of St. Giles, Bloomsbury, there is sufficient typhus about to ensure a large amount of fever in the winter months unless care be taken. Still, with but few exceptions, only single cases have at present come from the same houses. On July 24 a case of typhus was brought from 12, Great Queen-street, and after a month's interval, on the 24th of August, another case came from the same house. Here the poison is evidently lurking about, seeking for further prey. 37, Short's-gardens, and neighbouring houses, are also infected, and several of the purlieus of Drury-lane and Seven Dials."

Lambeth is only second to St. George's, Southwark, as a permanent source of typhus, and from the same cause. In July, 1864, typhus broke out at the Model Houses, No. 2, and some six persons suffered; in March last fever again made its appearance there, at No. 7; in June the poison passed to the inhabitants of No. 4, and thence spread to No. 5. During August typhus patients were brought from both these houses. Three houses in Francis-place furnished a slow succession of fourteen cases from January to May of the present year. For the last eighteen months typhus has rarely been absent from Bond-court. It would but be repetition to state similar facts in relation to Prince's-street, James-street, John-street, Little Windmill-street, and Spring-gardens. In 1862 fever was rife in the same localities."

"In St. Matthew's, Bethnal-green, the main hotbed of typhus at the present time is at Nos. 10 and 13, Nichol-row; 42, Old Nichol-street; 4, Half Nichol-street, and Collingwood-street. These spots, together with Providence-street, Cumberland-street, and Duke-street, have been constantly recurring sources of typhus for the last few years."

"In the last weekly return of the Registrar-General special attention was directed to the prevalence of fever at Blacksmiths' Arms-court, St. George's-in-the-East. I find from our records that typhus has existed there since January last, and mainly at the identical house, No. 5. Chapel-street, Cable-street, Star-court, New-court, and Christian-street have for months and years been the main centres of infection in the parish of St. George's-in-the-East."

"During the months of February, March, April, June, and August of the present year cases of typhus have been sent here from Great Peter-street, St. Margaret's, Westminster, which, with old Pye-street, St. Ann-street, and King's Head-court, are familiar names in our register."

"In the Holborn Union are spots which, for antiquity as typhus haunts, are unsurpassed. The inhabitants of the dwellings of the east side of Gray's-inn-lane have, since the commencement of the century, been customers of this hospital. This year, from February to June, cases of typhus came from Tyndall's-buildings; and during the first four months of the year patients were also received from Baldwin's-gardens, Brooke's-market, Holborn-buildings, and Bell-court."

"I will conclude this analysis with the Strand Union. At the present time Nos. 26 and 30, Ship-yard, are the seat of an outbreak of typhus. Four cases of typhus were taken from there in August. It is four months since the fever made its appearance in that locality. Clement's-lane is both an ancient and recent source of fever; but is exceeded in this respect by Newcastle-court, which is notorious in our annals."

"Last winter Middle Sarle's-place and New Church-buildings furnished us with numerous cases. The Newport-market Refuge is situated in this district. During the period that it was open last winter the managers of that admirable charity for a time committed the error of allowing those who sought its shelter to remain both day and night. The result was that typhus soon entered and rapidly spread. In a short space of time twenty cases were sent to this hospital, all of whom had been living day and night in the institution for periods varying from ten days to two months."

"It is almost impossible in the compass of a letter to give an exhaustive account of all the typhus haunts of London. I have enumerated the main ones, the knowledge of which will, I hope, be found useful, and I feel sure they will prove interesting, to those concerned about sanitary matters. The importance of the subject derived from the fact of more than 2000 lives having been sacrificed to typhus fever will, I trust, be a sufficient excuse for my taking up so much of your valuable space."

THE NEW CATTLE-SHIP MARY.

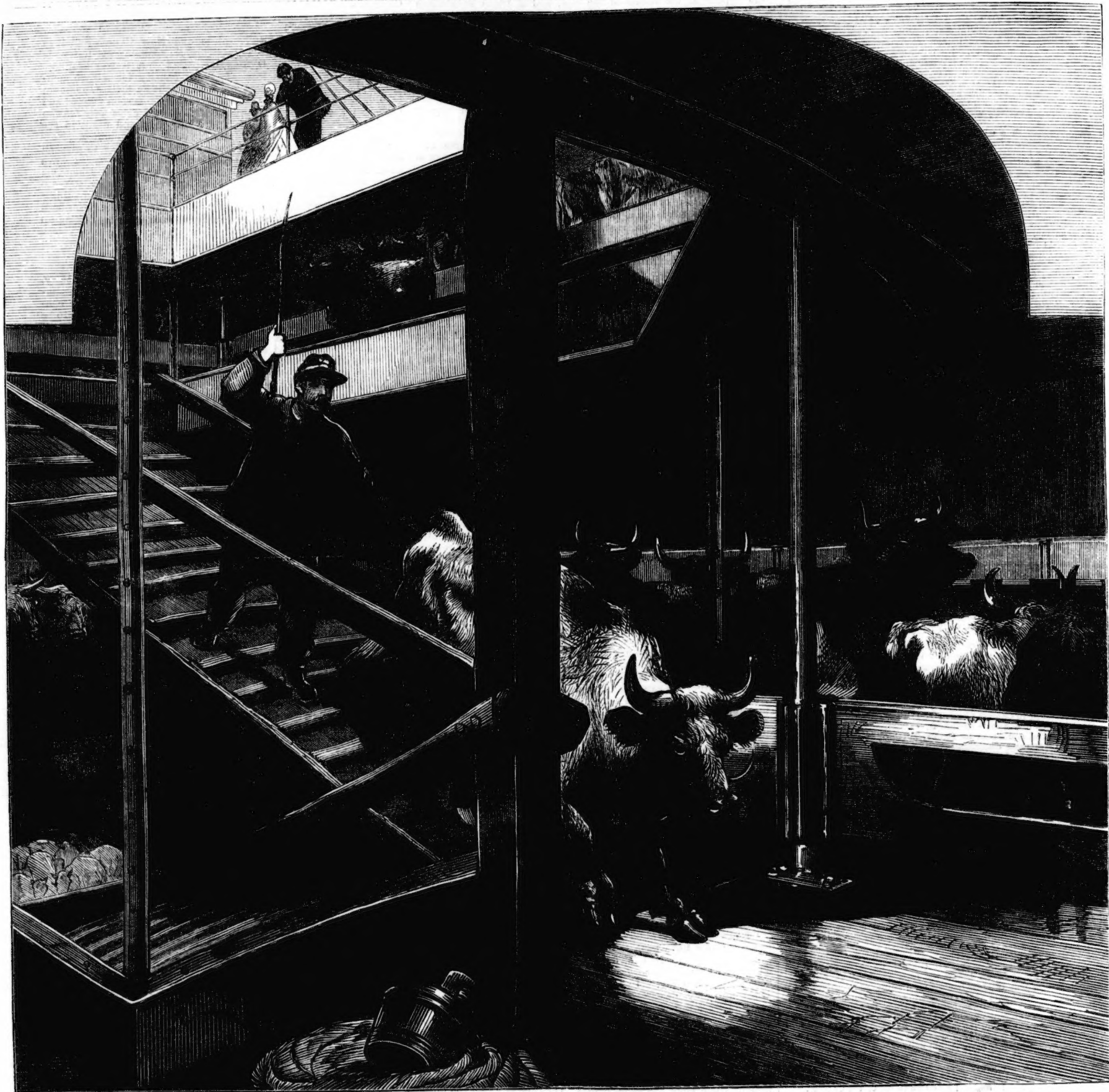
TRIAL was made a few days ago of a new ship, called the Mary, which has been specially fitted to meet the requirements of the import cattle trade, and to obviate or reduce to a minimum the confessed evils which ordinarily attend it. The desiderata appear to be these:—The greatest attainable speed, so that the voyage, with all its exhausting incidents, may be shortened as much as possible; the provision of ample and well-ordered accommodation; and, above all, really efficient means of ventilation and cleanliness. Most of the ships exclusively engaged in the trade have been converted from ordinary purposes with more or less want of success; and in some of them the condition of the cattle, after even a fair voyage, is distressing enough, but after a rough passage very horrible. The suffering of the animals means the deterioration of the beef, apart from the cruelty. It happens frequently with ill-regulated cattle-ships that, after they have discharged their cargo, it is found necessary that they should put to sea again, in order that a great number of cattle which have suffered most may be thrown overboard. Some of these are found dead, some nearly so, but all are in such a condition as to be totally useless. This is shockingly cruel as well as foolishly wasteful. The vessel of whose between decks cattle-pens—if we may so speak of them—we give an engraving, has been designed by Messrs. H. and W. Dudgeon, engineers and shipbuilders, especially for the conveyance of cattle, and with a view to obviate the evils complained of. The Mary is 230 ft. long, with a breadth of 27 ft. and a depth of hold of 20 ft. Her registered gross tonnage is 902 tons, her net registered tonnage for cargo is 616 tons, and her engines are of 270-horse power. She is fitted with twin screws to secure speed, and fifteen knots were got out of her with ease, against wind and tide, on the trial. She could thus make the trip from Rotterdam to Thames Haven in about ten hours. There is well-fitted deck accommodation in the fore end for 2000 sheep, and on the spar and lower decks 450 cattle can be taken. These will be stalled in square pens, by sixes, each beast being haltered by the horns to a ring-bolt. On these decks the most prominent of the improvements is carried out. The ventilation in ordinary ships is, in fine weather, imperfect and difficult; but in stormy weather, when the hatches must be closed, it is almost entirely done away with; and the results are horrible, as well as inevitable. This difficulty has been specially provided against on board the Mary with great ingenuity and completeness. In addition to cowls, which have been freely supplied to carry fresh air down, and outlet shafts, there has been fitted a wooden tube of about 6 in. square, which traverses the sides of the ship midway round the cattle compartments. This tube is fitted with sliding panels underneath, which can be opened or closed. Down the tube fresh air can be forced in steady currents by means of a large Davison's fan, which is fitted between the funnels on deck. The air being thus conveyed to all parts, a proper ventilation is possible, even when all the hatches must be closed. Powerful and efficient means for cleansing the pens properly are also provided, and all the fittings are planned to promote the comfort and health of the cattle."

NEW BRIDGE AT HAMPTON COURT.

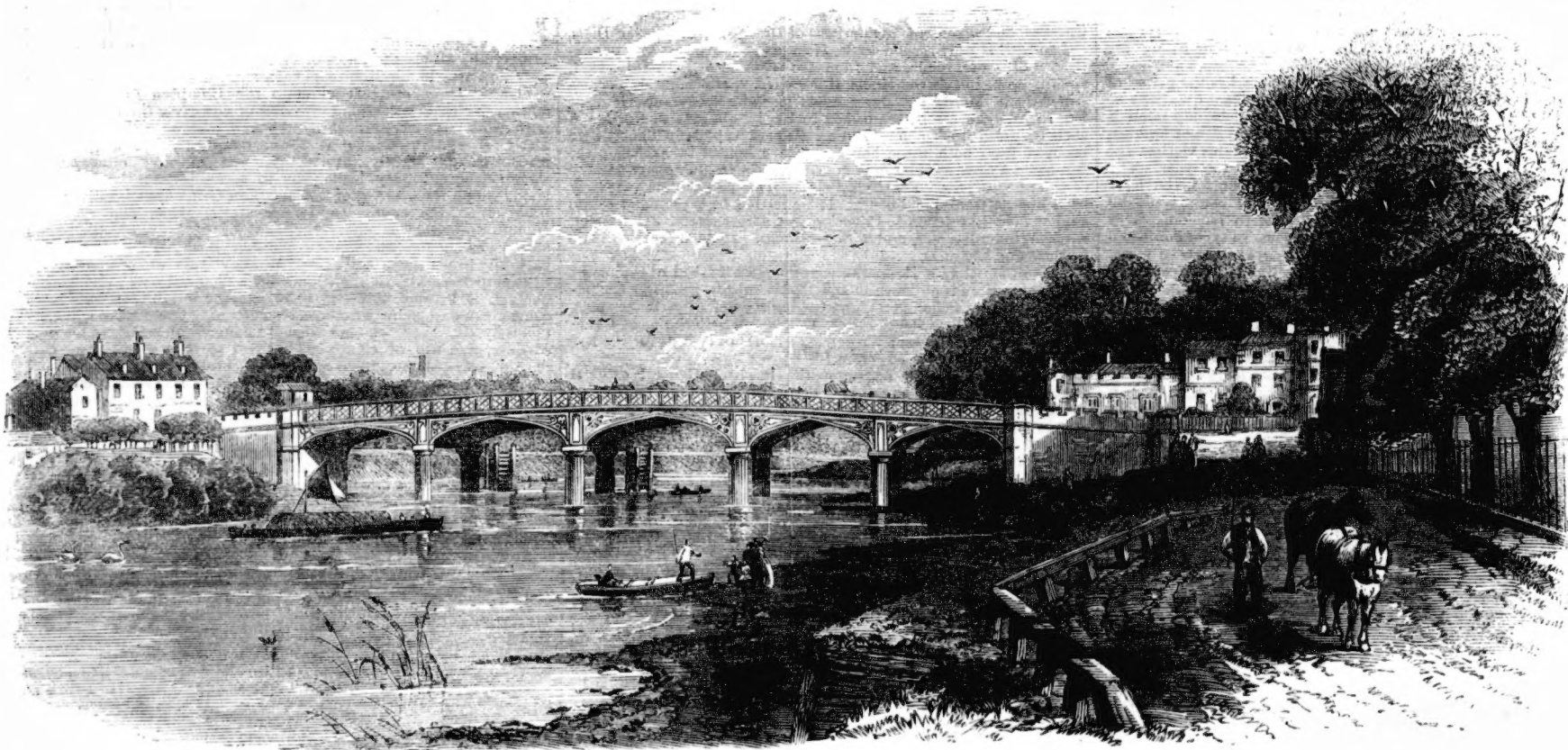
THE Thames will soon be one of the best bridged rivers in the world; if, indeed, it is not so already. From London Bridge upwards the stream is spanned at frequent intervals by public, proprietary, railway, and private bridges, of various ages and styles of architecture. Some of them, such as Westminster Bridge and the structure recently erected near Chelsea, are very chaste and handsome edifices. Others, again, such as old Putney Bridge, are the very reverse. Among the handsome structures the new Blackfriars Bridge, when completed, will occupy a prominent place. Unfortunately, however, from its close proximity to the railway bridge, it will not be seen to good advantage, and will probably, therefore, never have so imposing an effect as the beautiful and symmetrical structure at Westminster. Iron is now, of course, the material of which the most recently constructed bridges are formed, wood being entirely, and stone to a great extent, superseded. So far as we are aware, Putney Bridge is now the only wooden fabric of the sort upon the Thames; and that will probably soon be replaced by another."

The latest addition to the Thames bridges is that connecting Hampton Court with East Moulsey, which was opened for traffic a few days ago, and of which we this week engrave a view. This bridge, like all recent fabrics of the kind, is of iron, and, though not very imposing in appearance, is neat, and will certainly be very convenient. It is situated close to the Hampton Court railway station, which is on the opposite side of the river from the Palace, with which it is connected by the new bridge. There was formerly a wooden bridge at the same place, but this, besides having fallen greatly into decay, was of very clumsy construction, and totally inadequate to accommodate the increased traffic which the opening of the Hampton Court branch railway has brought to the spot. In former times, when the route to Hampton Court was either by boat or by way of Richmond and Twickenham, and thence through Bushy Park, the bridge between the Palace and East Moulsey was of comparatively little importance. All that, however, is changed now; and, consequently, it became necessary to replace the old bridge by a more convenient and more substantial structure. This task was undertaken by Mr. Allen, who has erected the new iron bridge at his own expense, and will, of course, be entitled to levy a toll from passengers. The engineer who designed the bridge is Mr. Murray, and his plans have been carried out by Messrs. Hannett, Spink, and Elise, the contractors. The bridge, as we have said, is within a short distance of the railway station, and is only about a quarter of a mile, or less, from the entrance to the Palace grounds. It is thus very convenient as a means of approach for visitors to that nominally Royal but really public property, and has the further recommendation of being immediately adjacent to respectable and well-conducted hosteries, where excursionists can obtain these refreshments so necessary to the holiday-making Englishman."

DEATH OF GENERAL LAMORICIERE.—General Lamoriciere died on Monday night at his chateau at Fran-*cl*. He served with great distinction in Africa up to 1845. In 1848 he took an active part in the revolution by which Louis Philippe lost his throne. The General, however, opposed Louis Napoleon, and, after the coup-d'état of December, was arrested and sent to Ham. He was retained there only a short time, and on leaving was conducted beyond the frontier. He lived until 1860 at Brussels. In that year he became commander-in-chief of the Pope's army, and the disasters which befel that wretched body will be remembered. Later he retired from all connection with the Papal forces. He was born, in 1806, at Nantes."

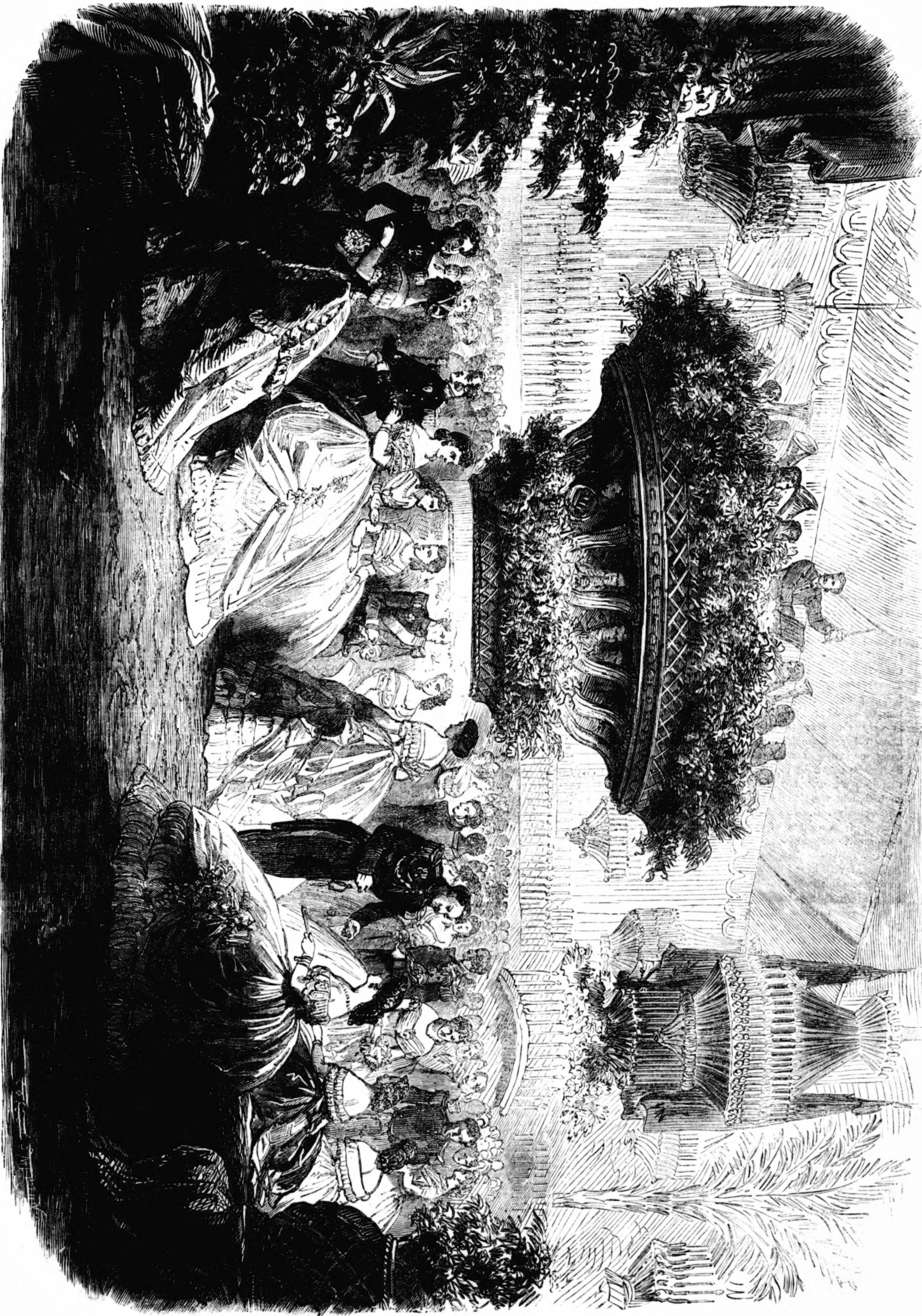


THE BETWEEN DECKS OF THE NEW CATTLE-SHIP MARY.



NEW BRIDGE OVER THE THAMES NEAR HAMPTON COURT.

FALL ON BOARD THE VILLE DE LYON, AT BREST, DURING THE VISIT OF THE BRITISH SQUADRON—SEE P. 66 171.



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THE FEVER NURSERIES OF LONDON.

TYPHUS FEVER is now regularly domesticated in these islands. It is never entirely absent from our great towns. Its victims are yearly numbered by the thousand. Our medical men meet it at every turn. They have studied it, and reported upon it again and again. We know its favourite haunts; we are aware of its sources; we have been told how and where it is bred, and how it is propagated. Poor neighbourhoods are its habitats. Filth, foul air, deficient and impure water, low living, and overcrowding: these are its parents. We are quite aware of all this, and yet we do little or nothing to eradicate the pestilence, although we are assured that it is more destructive than even a visitation of cholera, and is easily preventible. Has familiarity with the disease bred contempt for it? If so, it takes, and will continue to take, an ample revenge. The letter of Dr. Horace Jeaffreson, which appears in another column, lays open an appalling but undeniably true chapter of the natural history of this terrible scourge, which is every year becoming more fatal. In the London Fever Hospital alone 1334 persons have died from this disease since 1862, while in the present year no less than 2200 patients have been treated in that establishment. This represents but a portion of the cases that have occurred, for, of course, many have been treated in workhouse infirmaries, in other hospitals, and in private practice. It is only the very poor of whose sufferings from this and other maladies we have full records. Those cases occurring among well-to-do people do not come under the notice of medical men in official positions, and therefore are not recorded for reference. We must not suppose, however, that the rich altogether escape, though they undoubtedly suffer less frequently, and probably also less severely, from attacks of typhus and similar disorders. But comparative impunity ought not to generate indifference—as it seems to do—to the causes and ravages of typhus. When disease prevails in one district it is sure to spread more or less to all; and this fact should make all classes anxious to root out the sources from which disease springs.

The typhus cases brought to the Fever Hospital, Dr. Jeaffreson finds come regularly from the same quarters of the metropolis, and these are precisely the districts in which we should expect pestilence to be generated. But though generated in certain particular localities, and raging most constantly and virulently there, the mischief is sure to diffuse itself more or less into others more favourably situated. St. George's, Southwark; Limehouse and St. Luke's; certain parts of the East London Union; Lambeth, Bethnal-green, St. Margaret's, Westminster, and the east side of Gray's-inn-lane, may be the great nurseries of typhus; but other and more cleanly and wholesome districts must suffer also. All the spots in which Dr. Jeaffreson finds the fever crop to be most rank are poor and filthy; and the inference to be drawn from this fact is, that were those localities made clean and wholesome, disease would disappear as a regular resident among us, the lives of thousands would be saved, the comforts of the poor would be promoted, the rich would be spared the task of supporting the disabled poor and maintaining the orphans made by disease, and at the same time be relieved from anxiety on account of their own health.

Surely these are objects worthy of some sacrifice both of time and of money. It would be a good investment for the general public to take upon itself the task of removing the causes which produce disease by improving the dwellings of the poor, by liberally paying inspectors to see that cleanliness is practised at all times and in all neighbourhoods where the people are found to neglect that great requisite of health, and by seeing that an ample supply of at least moderately pure water is furnished to every family. If these things are neglected under ordinary circumstances, and only seen to when a pestilence panic is prevalent, we shall never get rid of the sources of disease, and shall have to bear our share of the consequences, how rich soever we may be, and however far removed, apparently, from infection. But we cannot remove ourselves far from the sources of contamina-

tion. We have pestilence nurseries in the midst of every portion, not only of London, but of every large town. We cannot fly from disease and death. Go where we will, they will follow us; hide where we may, they will find us out. The wiser as well as the more courageous course, therefore, is to face the mischief, and, by removing its causes, destroy pestilence in the germ. The thing can be done. It only involves the expenditure of a certain sum of money, a certain amount of care, and a certain degree of energy.

People are apt to be indifferent to evil so long as they are, or deem themselves, free from its action. But this is a great mistake. We are all to a certain extent our brothers' keepers, and cannot neglect their welfare without compromising our own, especially in the matter of health. To make our meaning clear, let us take a quarter with which we have recently made ourselves personally familiar, and where we have seen all the causes in operation which breed disease in the very midst of comfort and even affluence. Great and Little Ormond yards, Ormond-street, are surrounded on all sides by respectable streets and elegant squares. Queen-square, Russell-square, Brunswick-square, Guilford-street, and Southampton-row—all highly respectable quarters, inhabited by well-to-do people—are in the immediate vicinity of Great and Little Ormond yards. And what is the state of these yards? Great Ormond-yard is a great receptacle for cabs—in fact, it is one of the largest cab-yards in London. Some hundreds of horses are stabled in it. Its pavement is covered with reeking manure-heaps, and pools of stagnant water. The air is saturated with ammoniacal gases. We saw in it one water cistern which supplied—or was supposed to supply—some half-dozen families, the covering of which was broken and dilapidated, so that the thousand and one mephitic odours, the dust and filth constantly floating about, lighted upon the water, covering it with a noisome-looking film, and, of course, impregnating it with deleterious matter. There is no filtration of water, no ventilation, bad drainage—everything, in short, necessary for the production of disease. And yet here hundreds of persons—we believe we may say families—live in rooms over the stables, each apartment having its quota of from three to six or eight inhabitants. The residents in this yard are principally cabmen, ostlers, horse-tenders, and their families. Little Ormond-yard, again, which is separated from the other by a range of houses the principal of which is a tavern, is worse still. The people who huddle together here are mostly costermongers, navvies, fruit and flower sellers, and the like; and bear about them indubitable indications of living in a state of poverty, squalor, dirt, and dissipation. Each of these yards supports a public-house; for, as there is no thoroughfare through either, the residents must mainly be the publicans' customers.

Here, then, we have every element of the model fever nursery; and this is not the worst locality in London by any means. Can the rich people who dwell in the handsome squares and streets in the neighbourhood hope to escape altogether the maladies generated in Great and Little Ormond yards, and carried thence on the persons, in the cabs, among the fruit and the flowers which issue from them every day? We maintain that they cannot. Nor is it just that they should. They neglect their duty to their poorer and more ignorant and reckless neighbours. They knowingly allow the laws of Nature to be violated, and must bear their share of the penalty which Nature never fails to inflict for breaches of her plainest mandates. Let the rich men of Russell, Queen, and Brunswick squares look to it. They cannot continue to allow these nuisances to remain in their midst with impunity. What is true of the district we have described is true, more or less, of every quarter of London. What is the duty of the inhabitants of Bloomsbury, is the duty of the inhabitants of every parish in London. Let it be done, and that, too, methodically and continuously, not merely as a spasmodic effort inspired by the presence of cholera or other unusual pestilence.

ANOTHER PROPOSED TRANSATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.—The provisional prospectus of another new telegraph company, having for its object the establishment of electric communication between this country and America, has been issued. The company is to be known as Allan's Ocean Telegraph Company (Limited), from the circumstance that the cable which is proposed to lay is to be connected on the principle advocated by Mr. Allan, the well-known electrician and engineer. The capital to be raised is stated at £150,000; and it is proposed, in order practically to test the superiority of Allan's cable, to lay it in the first instance from Falmouth to Oporto, and, should this section work satisfactorily, to carry it across the Atlantic to Halifax. The present Atlantic Telegraph Company propose charging £20 for the transmission of a message of twenty words to Halifax, but the tariff given in the prospectus of the new company of which we are speaking is only £4 for the same thing. One of the advantages of Allan's cable is that it can be laid without much expense; and it is calculated that, even at this rate, not being saddled with any loss through previous failure, the undertaking should pay as well at this rate as its rival at a much higher. As soon as the business increases it is intended to lay another cable between Falmouth and Halifax direct.

THE CASE OF M. OTT.—The semi-official *Nord Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* states, upon reliable authority, that the affair of M. Ott occurred as follows:—"Upon the 4th ult. the student Count Eulenburg, a one-year volunteer, and Student B. had an altercation with several persons, resulting in B. receiving a blow on the head from behind, probably occasioned by a stick. B. fell and bled profusely. Upon this Count Eulenburg felt for his sabre, which he wore hooked up at his side, but perceived that it was not in the scabbard, and conjectured that it had either fallen out, or that one of his opponents had withdrawn it unobserved. He therefore defended himself with the scabbard against the persons pressing upon him until his friends came up. Their adversaries then ran away, leaving Ott behind, bleeding much from the back part of the head. Ott went with the police to the hospital, where his wound was examined, sewn up, and was stated not to be dangerous. Six days afterwards Ott died from inflammation of the brain. Although the post-mortem examination showed that his death was probably caused by the wound, a definitive opinion could not be given by the surgeons until a more precise inquiry had been made into the history of his illness. In accordance with the regulations, the judicial examination into the affair was conducted by a mixed commission of military men and civilians, and their report may soon be expected. Count Eulenburg's sabre was returned to the head-quarters of his regiment on Sept. 5 by Ott's companion, with the statement that he had found it in the neighbourhood of the spot where the occurrence took place." [This version of the affair is utterly at variance with previous accounts, and has a decidedly "made-up" air about it.] It is asserted that the French Government has addressed a note to the Prussian Cabinet in reference to the murder of M. Ott, which dwells upon the fact that France extends her protection to all her subjects.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN AND HER YOUNGER CHILDREN left Windsor on Monday for Balmoral, where they arrived safely on Tuesday evening.

LORD PALMERSTON is suffering from another attack of gout, which has prevented his inaugurating the Bristol Industrial Exhibition, as he intended to do.

PARLIAMENT has been further prorogued, by order in council, from the 1st to the 23rd of November.

ROSSINI, like Auber, has received the Imperial Mexican decoration of the Order of Guadalupe.

IN SOME PARTS OF DORSETSHIRE the fruit trees are bearing a second time this year.

THE FRENCH SQUADRON left Cherbourg on Saturday morning, and sailed for the coast of Spain.

STACK-BURNING has again commenced in North Lincolnshire, several incendiary fires having occurred within the last few days.

BISHOP MONRAD, who played so prominent a part in Danish politics during the late war, has resolved to go to New Zealand with his family, and settle there.

THE NOTORIOUS REBEL RAJAH DRIBHJJA SING, who took a prominent part in the Indian mutiny of 1857 and refused to surrender himself under the Queen's proclamation, has just been captured in Oude, and is committed for trial.

THE STUDENTS OF SWITZERLAND, following the example of some of those in Germany, have passed resolutions against duelling.

GLADIATEUR won the Great St. Leger Stakes at Doncaster, on Wednesday; Regalia being second, and Archimedes third.

A MAN NAMED M'INTOSH has been fined £5 and costs for attempting to kiss a young lady in a carriage of the South-Eastern Railway Company while the train was passing through a tunnel.

THE AMERICAN IRONCLAD FLEET has nearly all been ordered out of commission, and is to be laid up at League Island, on the Delaware River, a few miles below Philadelphia.

THE LADIES OF GERMANY have been invited to meet in congress at Leipzig to discuss such questions as women's work, the establishment of commercial and industrial schools for women, medical classes and degrees for women, &c.

TWO GLASGOW POLICEMEN have been committed for trial charged with having caused the death of a boy, by drowning, in the Forth and Clyde Canal.

PROFESSOR AGASSIZ has gone, at the invitation of the Emperor of Brazil, on a scientific expedition to the source of the Amazon and to the Cordilleras of the Peruvian Andes.

CAPTAIN CAMERON, though released from his chains, has not left Abyssinia, and King Theodore has invited Mr. Rassam to come to him at once through Egypt. The messengers which Mr. Rassam had sent up to King Theodore had been well treated and allowed to return to Massowah.

IN A CEMETERY IN SHARON, Connecticut, is a family lot in which are seven graves arranged in a circle. Six stones commemorate six deceased wives of one gentleman; while a seventh and more stately slab bears the simple but affecting inscription, "Our husband."

THREE YOUNG SISTERS suffocated themselves with charcoal recently in Paris, and were found dead in a kneeling posture by their mother; their father had committed suicide by throwing himself from a church steeple; and their brother, a soldier, had blown his brains out.

MDME. KOSSUTH, wife of the ex-Dictator of Hungary, has just died at Turin. Her maiden name was Meszlényi de Meszlén. Her body has been transported, according to her desire, to Genoa, to be deposited in the cemetery of English Protestants at San-Bedigno, near the body of her only daughter, who died three years ago. Mdme. Kossuth was in her fifty-fifth year.

A REVEREND RAILWAY DIRECTOR recently went on a visit of inspection to the new railway works at Andoversford. At his own request he was lowered down a shaft of 80 ft. On his return he was halted half way, and, despite his authority as director and magistrate, the navvies refused to move him till he had promised to pay at once a sovereign as "footing."

THE PARTING ENTERTAINMENT given by the Copenhagen citizens to the Schleswig deputation was made the occasion for a number of speeches, in which, on both sides, the most resolute determination was expressed to maintain unaltered the bonds of national brotherhood between the Danes in Schleswig and the Danes under the rule of King Christian.

THE INHABITANTS OF TWICKENHAM met on Tuesday, with the Rev. the Vicar in the chair, to give utterance to complaints respecting the offensive state of the river, arising from want of water and exposed mud and filth banks. The meeting resolved that these complaints were just, and also that the construction of a lock and weir between Isleworth and Strand-in-the-Green would be the most efficacious remedy.

AN EXHIBITION OF ART AND INDUSTRY was opened, on Wednesday, at Reading, the Bishop of Oxford delivering the address on the occasion. The objects exhibited are principally works of art, collected for the occasion from various quarters; and the purpose of the exhibition is to bring nearer to the eyes and minds of the people of Berkshire the beauties and influence of these productions.

THE GASTRIN CONVENTION for the separation of the duchies of Schleswig and Holstein is about to be carried into practical effect. An order from the local Government declares that the separation was to be carried into effect yesterday.

THE NEW LAW COURTS.—The "late" Insolvent Debtors' Court has been fitted up for the Commissioners appointed by her Majesty to "advise and report" on the erection of the new law courts and their accommodation and internal arrangement; and about the end of the long vacation the first meeting will be held. The matters to be advised and reported upon will be divers and important, both as to the extent of the site and the expected outlay. The Commissioners are to consist of three officers of the Court of Chancery. The Judges of the various courts and the legal profession are to be fully represented. The first questions to be solved by the Commissioners will be as to the site, and whether the outlay will exceed the amount provided.

SWINDLING SYSTEM WITH POST-OFFICE ORDERS.—A new swindling trick, of altering a post-office order and cashing it with a tradesman for more than it was drawn, has been successfully performed on some tradesmen at York. In the course of the past week a stranger called on several plumbers carrying on business at York and made engagements with them to meet him at Shipton, to repair some of his property. After making this arrangement, he seems to have produced a post-office order, in one case for £8 4s. 2d., of which, he said, the post-office authorities had not been advised. In the instance referred to he induced a plumber to let him have £5 on the order, on account, and it was further arranged that the balance should be paid at Shipton. It was subsequently discovered that the order had only been taken out at 4s. 2d., and that the £8 had been added to it. Three or four plumbers went to Shipton as requested, where they found that they had been victimised by a swindler. Of course the stranger has not since been heard of; but it is known that a person answering his description has similarly duped tradesmen in Birmingham, Derby, Wolverhampton, Liverpool, Chester, Carlisle, Lancaster, Kendal, Appleby, Mansfield, and Nottingham.

FATAL COLLIERY ACCIDENT.—An appalling colliery accident by which eight men and boys were killed, with only a few seconds' warning, occurred late on Tuesday afternoon, at the California Pit, Pennington Green, between three and four miles from Wigan. The colliery forms part of the extensive works of the Kirkless Hall Coal and Iron Company. When the pit is in full work between 300 and 400 colliers and drawers are engaged; but on Tuesday morning only 277 lamps were given out on the pit bank, the reason being that the previous Saturday was "pay Saturday." Monday, consequently, "pay Monday," and on Tuesday, when the fortnight's work is commenced, the whole of the men are never ready to begin their labour. On Tuesday full hours are seldom made, and, though the men descended the pit at the usual hour in the morning, the operation of winding them up the shaft began soon after three o'clock in the afternoon. At a quarter to four some one hundred of the men had been conveyed safely to the surface, and eight more colliers and drawers were placed safely in the upper portion of the "two-decker" cage by the hooker-on to ascend the shaft, a height of about 315 yards. The cage was within about 45 yards of the top—2½ strokes of the engine—when suddenly the rope slipped off the cone-shaped drum on to the shaft, and, though the engine was immediately checked, the cage fell down the pit, snapping the steel wire in two and then dashing along with its living freight at a fearful rate to the bottom, a fall of fully 270 yards. The workmen at the pit's eye had, fortunately, sufficient time to get out of the way of the cage, which, moving with extraordinary velocity, crashed through the boarding which covered the dib-hole, and was hidden in the 7 ft. of water which it contained. The captain was soon put in order again, and four men were lowered in the cage by its means. They found the shaft had been very slightly injured, for the cage had been held in its position by the rods, and the rope—some hundreds of yards of which it had taken with it in its fall—had lodged safely on the top of the ascending cage. There was not the slightest possibility that any one of the eight men in the dib-hole could be alive, and it was deemed the wisest course, as the rope on the other side of the shaft was uninjured, to proceed with the winding-up of the 160 men who were still in the pit. Subsequently the bodies were carefully wrapped up at the bottom and sent in couples to the top, where carts were in readiness to convey them to the Running Horse Inn, Apsall, there to await the coroner's inquest. The cause of the accident rests at present unexplained. The rope, which was of steel, and about 3½ in. in circumference, had been on the drum since the 13th of May, and was in good working order; it was calculated to resist a strain of ten or twelve tons; but this, of course, would be nothing compared with the force of the jerk by which it was broken. The drum was of conical shape, and the slipping of the rope which caused the accident would be a circumstance very similar to the slipping of a lad's string when he winds his pegtop.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

THOUGH the members of the new Parliament are all returned, there must be another election for Leominster, for Mr. Gathorne Hardy was returned both for Leominster and the University of Oxford, and, as he will elect to sit for the University, Leominster will have to choose another member. Many of the members, however, begin already to shake in their shoes, and some few to wish that they had not been successful. The Bridgewater election, for example, is sure to be overhauled by an election committee. For that borough there were three candidates—Mr. Henry Westrop, Conservative; Mr. Alexander William ("Eöthen") Kinglake, Liberal; and Sir John Shelley (late member for Westminster), Liberal. Sir John believed that he was quite sure of the seat; but Westrop topped Sir John by ninety-one votes, and Kinglake beat him by thirty. This would appear to outsiders a most decisive defeat; but Sir John does not mean to rest contented with the decision, declares that it was obtained by flagrant bribery, and that he has conclusive proof that at least ninety votes were bought. If so, Sir John may yet be member for Bridgewater, and the House not be deprived of his services, of whatever value they may be. The House, I fancy, never appraised these services highly. Sir John, it is said, is rather sore on the matter of the Westminster election. He fancies that his Whig friends did not meet him with due cordiality. I believe that the truth is this: The Government agent would not put up a man to oppose him, albeit they suspected that if he persisted in standing the Liberal party would lose a vote. But when he retired from the field they would not press him to return. This, I think, is all that Sir John can lay to the charge of his Whig friends. They would not ask him to retire, and neither would they press him to stand.

The notes of preparation for war in the Committee-rooms may already be heard, and money already begins to flow—at least, so I judge; for the other day I met Tug, a small lawyer in Parliamentary practice, who had to dive under at the end of last Session, walking boldly in Parliament-street, which was long a closed street to him, rehabilitated and full of spirits, which I take to be certain signs that he is also full of cash. True, Tug may have been in the country, working elections, and in this way got supplies; but I have no doubt that he has also taken retainers for the coming contests in the Parliamentary Committee-rooms. What Tug and his class do for their pay, I never could accurately ascertain; but I suspect that, as at elections there is often much dirty work to be done which the regular agent cannot do, and must know nothing about, so there may be work of not a very chivalrous character to be done in these Parliamentary contests; and, if so, Tug is the man to do it. However, Tug has certainly, somehow, got into cash; for he can walk about town unmolested, and, moreover, as I have said, rehabilitated, and looks uncommonly spry. Men like Tug are, of course, not the recognised agents of petitioners or the opponents of petitions. The regular agents are men of high standing, "very respectable men indeed, Sir; highly respectable." The Conservatives employ, generally, the great house of Baxter, Rose, Norton, Spofforth, Baxter, and Rose, the well-known Conservative agents in Victoria-street. The Liberals divide their favours—the largest share going to Messrs. Burcham, Dalrymple, and Drake. The golden shower falls upon such houses as these. Tug and the like of him only get a few of the outside drops. To the two great houses named—especially the first—it is indeed a golden shower. I suspect you might venture to buy the profits which they will derive from election petitions, next Session, at £40,000, and then net a handsome sum. It was said that, in 1857, more than £100,000 was spent in contesting seats; and, of course, the greater part went into the pockets of the agents. "They know how to charge these gentlemen," said I to Blogg, who was holding forth upon this subject. "Egad, you are right there," he replied. "My dear old friend Tom Crawley once presented a petition, but he did not go on with it. He merely lodged it, and his bill amounted to £800. He only paid £400, though." "Only £400; how was that?" "Well, Tom's brother George had been a lawyer; and, acting upon his advice, Tom sent a cheque for £400, with a note in which he coolly told the fellows that that was all he meant to pay. They bothered him, and said he was no gentleman, and at last asked for the name of his solicitor, which Tom sent them, and there the matter dropped."

All election petitions must be presented on or before the fourteenth day after the meeting of Parliament, during the sitting of the House; but the fourteenth day does not necessarily close at midnight, but continues till the House rises. Immediately before the adjournment of the House on the fourteenth day, the Serjeant-at-Arms comes into the lobby, and formally inquires whether anyone has a petition to present, and if no one answers he reports to the Speaker, the House adjourns, and all the members against whose return no petition has been represented are safe for the Parliament. That fourteenth night will be an anxious time for some of the members. Old Williams, the doorkeeper, used to tell a story of a curious mishap which occurred in his time. There was an Irish member whose seat was to be questioned. On the fourteenth night he sat watching for the petition, which he knew was to be presented, and scarcely for a moment left his seat. At last, about 11.30, the business of the House was finished, and the House adjourned, and then he retired, wondering at his escape, the cause of which he could not imagine, until, on crossing the outer lobby, he met a member who thus accosted him. "Well, B, I am sorry to say that the petition has come and I am going to present it." "Indeed!" replied B, "and I am glad to say that the House is up and you are too late." "But it is not twelve o'clock," replied the other, rushing on his course. Poor man! he had got the notion in his head that the House would sit certainly till twelve to receive petitions, which was altogether a wrong notion, as he discovered to his cost, or, rather, to the cost of the petitioner.

The junior lordship of the Admiralty, vacated by Mr. Childers, is, whilst I am writing, not filled up, but it may be before this Paper gets into the hands of your readers. I suspect that it is going a begging. The acceptance of it, you see, involves a re-election, of which few men can be positively certain. The Conservatives have determined to contest every seat that becomes vacant. This was the policy which they pursued during the existence of the last Parliament; and it was so successful that they mean to carry it out again. A thousand a year is a tempting bait, and many would snap at it, but then this might happen—in snapping at the salary one might lose one's seat and the salary too, and that would be dropping into a frightful hole. If it be true that Mr. Stansfeld has been offered the place, he has refused it, I suspect; but not because he was afraid that the Halifax people would not re-elect him, for his seat there is quite safe. It is a senseless law that compels a member to vacate his seat when he takes an inferior office under the Crown, and exceedingly inconvenient. All offices under the Crown are not affected by this law. Mr. Childers, for example, does not vacate his seat on taking the office of Financial Secretary to the Treasury. The reason for this distinction is a curious one. Of course all these subaltern officers are selected by the Prime Minister of the day; but certain of them are formally appointed by the Crown, whilst others are formally appointed by the chiefs of the departments. The former must vacate their seats on appointment; the latter need not. Surely it is time that this distinction without a difference should be abolished. And now I am writing on this subject, I may as well mention another fact not generally known. If Sir George Grey were to mount to the position of First Lord of the Treasury, he would vacate his seat; but if he were to go from the Home Office to the War Office he would not vacate his seat. The philosophy of this is, that the Constitution recognises within a certain area no departments. A Secretary of State is by the Constitution simply a Secretary of State, and in every department presided over by a Secretary of State he can act. Indeed, not long ago Sir George Grey, on the illness of Sir George Cornwall Lewis, presided over both the War Department and the Home Office.

Sir Henry Pollard Willoughby (my readers will remember Sir Henry, for he has often been described in the ILLUSTRATED TIMES), though one of the severest critics of Government management,

especially of the management of its finance, did not manage his own affairs so well as one might have expected. He left personal property to the amount of £150,000 and upwards, besides considerable estates. He made a will to dispose of the property, which he had the power to devise; but he named no executor, and, further, in the will he refers to certain written directions which, it would seem, he never prepared.

And so good old Admiral Smyth—Admiral William Henry Smyth—is dead! This excellent and able man was better known to the last generation than he is to this. It was he who, through long years, surveyed the Mediterranean; it was he who, with the assistance of his accomplished wife, got together those two formidable volumes, entitled "The Bedford Catalogue of Stars," so called because the work was done in the Admiral's private observatory at Bedford; and it was he who persuaded the late Marquis of Bute to undertake those magnificent "Bute Docks" at Cardiff. These docks have added to the income of the Bute peerage some £50,000 a year; and but for the Admiral the great work would probably never have been undertaken. Admiral Smyth died at the good old age of seventy-five. His oldest son is Astronomer Royal for Scotland, Professor C. Piazzi Smyth, the gentleman who lately published a book, entitled "Our Inheritance in the Great Pyramid."

Walking from Weymouth to Dorchester, a few days since, and within half a mile of the last-named town, I came upon a wondrous sight. An old Roman amphitheatre lies to the right of the high road. It is perfect. You may yet see where the audience entered, after paying their denarii, sesterces, or whatever may have been the price of admission. The circus is still without a blade of grass; and the raised banks around show to this day that they were formed by horizontal layers of turf, probably the forced labour of ancient Britons. The arena is sixty paces in diameter. How strangely this solitude—where, probably, gladiators fought for dear life, as well as hot youth gloried in the collection of Olympian dust—contrasted with the canvas tent which I saw being pitched in Southampton for the exhibition of a travelling troupe! The old Romans seem to have understood these matters rather better than we do now, even after the teachings of Astley, Ducrow, Cooke, and Batty. That old amphitheatre at Dorchester is a model of adaptation to purpose. I search in vain among the pages of "The Parliamentary Gazetteer" for a record of its existence, and therefore submit that this brief description of it may be received with interest.

THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

The production of "Castle Grim" at the NEW ROYALTY will, I hope, be as successful in a pecuniary point of view as it is dramatically and musically, for it is exactly the sort of entertainment we want in London. I am afraid that Grand English Opera is impossible—that it will never become a permanent institution; but comic opera, written by English composers, sung by English singers, and played by an English orchestra, is not a thing to dream of, but might become a tangible, solid, rent-paying, tax-paying, salary-paying reality. The present New Royalty management must have the best wishes of everybody. The plot of the libretto of "Castle Grim" is easily told. A young gentleman chooses to devote himself to morbid fancies, and takes refuge in an uncomfortable old castle, where he surrounds himself with a number of dismal servants, and awaits death with unbecoming impatience. The arrival of a young and lovely ward, who falls in love with him and resolves to raise him to the level of the ordinary hilarity of humanity, dissipates his hypochondria and conducts him to a happy hymen and a singularly constructed and effective finale. The comic portion of the opera falls to the hands, or rather voices, of Miss Fanny Reeves and Mr. George Honey, than whom two worthier representatives of that union of musical and dramatic ability required for opera comique are not to be found upon our stage. Mr. Elliot Galer, who personates the young gentleman of morbid fancies, sings excellently, but would do well to expend a little more force and fervour on the purely dramatic portion of his task. The lyric drama is the lyric *drama*, and something more than vocal accomplishment is required. I cannot find terms to describe the vivacity and charm imparted by Miss Susan Galton into the part of the lady who awakens the student from his metaphysical nightmare. She is youthful, beautiful, espiegle, and sings like a canary; in fact, Miss Susan Galton must be seen and heard. Miss Fanny Reeves is a housekeeper—staid, prim, and solemn in the first act, but who, in the second, catches the infection of pleasure and enjoyment infused into the mansion by the Youthful and the Beautiful, as Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton might have said if he had been a theatrical lounge. Mr. George Honey is exactly what a buffo singer should be—that is, he is Figaro—the gay, grave, sententious, light-hearted, intelligent creation of Beaumarchais. The libretto is full of motion, situation, and dramatic effect, but it has several serious faults. The fun made of the name "Death" is positively ghastly, and a considerable portion of the earnest element of the book is capable of improvement.

DIG DURY LANE and the little PRINCE OF WALES are shortly to reopen. At the smaller establishment a new burlesque by Mr. Byron is to be produced on the opening night. The opera and story of the "Bride of Lammermoor" has been chosen by the famous parodist for his subject.

Wherever Mr. Sothern moves, and he is now starring here, there, and everywhere in the provinces, he discovers a Tom Tiddler's ground, and gathers golden opinions (should not this be gold and opinions?) from every opening playhouse.

THE FENIANS.

WHATEVER notice the Fenians may be entitled to as a political organisation, certain it is that they are creating a full tide of the talk; and the appearance of one of them, "An American Fenian," in the public press, candidly admitting the aims of the society, will doubtless be regarded by many as a novel incident in the history of secret associations. No doubt these revelations would be regarded in the light of a hoax if they appeared in the columns of a paper less solemn than those of the *Freeman's Journal*.

"As I am," the Fenian says, "in a position to know the exact aims and objects of the American Fenians, perhaps a short history of that organisation may help to allay the fears of the Orange newspapers of Dublin and the provinces. The Fenian is essentially an American organisation, commenced about seven years ago for a very different object than the freeing Ireland from the English yoke. It is not, as has been alleged, entirely composed of Irishmen. At the present moment it numbers many thousand native Americans and Americanised Germans, and has a large treasury at its back. The exact number of enrolled members at the beginning of last August was two hundred and seventy-three thousand, five hundred and eighty-one (273,581). Notwithstanding the statements of Fenian orators at picnics and other gatherings in the United States that the object is to free Ireland, I know that such is not the case. These statements are put forward to mislead the public and keep the British authorities off the scent. The real object is to attack and conquer Canada, and divide the immense territory of Britain on the American continent among the exiles of Erin. Nor let the statements of Mr. McGee mislead the public. He asserts that Irish Canadians are true and loyal to the British Crown. That may be the case with Mr. McGee and others who are well paid for their loyalty; but I know that the majority of the Catholic Irish in Canada are Fenians, and stand ready sworn to aid their brethren in the States to oust British authority from the western continent."

He says that the Government of the United States know and connive at the objects in view, and adds—"When I joined the Fenian organisation I was led to believe that the freedom of Ireland was the grand object of the society, and I believe that such was the intention of the leaders then; but the United States Government saw the uses to which the Fenians could be applied, and soon found a channel to conduct the ardour of Irish patriots to Yankee ends. Let me assure your readers that the laws and governing rules of the society are framed at Washington, printed in the Government printing office, and sent free through the mails to every circle in the Union and in Canada. That a quarrel will be picked with England before the 4th of next July is as certain as that I live while I pen these lines. Every nationality represented in American society demands a war with England, and the authorities of the States, if they were even averse to such a war, would have to yield to popular clamour or vacate their places—a thing an American statesman never does." Mr. Seward is the virtual leader of the movement, and the officers of the Irish Brigade are ready to lead it, at the proper time. The writer says he "was a member of the Fenian Convention at Chicago and Cincinnati, and knew the designs of the brotherhood. In both instances addresses were put forth to the Irish people calculated to impress people with the notion that the Fenians intended coming to Ireland to break the chains of centuries, when the real effort was directed against Canada. At

the Cincinnati convention several military chieftains from the different armies were delegates, by authority of the Secretary for War; and a letter was read from Mr. Seward congratulating the Irish for their patriotism and valour, and directing the convention the proper course to pursue in reference to the Canadian invasion. The letter was loudly applauded, and resolves made to abide the decision and action of the Government." But all this agrees indifferently with the stories of drilling in the south and west of Ireland.

THE OLD ROMAN SPRING BATH, in the Strand, close by King's College, has lately been reopened. It is supplied by a spring of very pure water, the source of which, it is said, is entirely unknown; and winter and summer ten tons of water pass through it daily.

THE STRIKE, which commenced about five months ago at the Government fortifications in the neighbourhood of Plymouth, is at an end, an agreement having been signed by which the operatives virtually obtain the ends for which they have been striving. It may be remembered that the masters refused to submit to a new code of rules, hence the strike. Upwards of 3000 masons and other labourers were thrown out of employment.

RECIPES FOR CHOLERA.—The following is Dr. Burq's recipe for the treatment of cholera by copper, which he considers a specific, because he has succeeded in establishing the fact that workmen who constantly handle copper or brass are universally exempt from the disease. Once a day, and, twice, if necessary, from two to ten drops, according to age, should be taken of the following mixture as a preservative:—Crystallised acetate of lead, 5 gms.; Rosacean's laudanum, 1 do.; common water, 20 do. Always wear thin copper tinsel, cut into round bits, here and there on the abdomen and chest; or else apply the following ointment:—Crystallised acetate of lead, 4 gms.; extract of belladonna, 4 do.; purified hog's lard, 30 do. Or else take a bath of sulphate of copper, 500 gms., and sub-carbonate of soda, 250 gms., every second day. In case of an attack of cholera, administer the solution, and, if no copper tinsel be at hand, lay all the kitchen coppers about the patient's person. If a favourable reaction does not speedily take place put a rag saturated with salt water between the metal and the skin, and repeat the dose of the acetate solution. If the patient cannot take anything, rub the ointment over the whole body, or else introduce the solution under the skin by means of Pravaz's syringe. Dr. Burq does not consider the local irritation of the skin, subsequent to this operation, of any consequence in such a case. The following recipe is declared to have been very efficacious at Liverpool during the visitation of cholera, in 1849:—3 drachms of spirits of camphor, 3 drachms of laudanum, 3 drachms of oil of turpentine, 30 drops of oil of peppermint. Mix, and take a teaspoonful in a glass of weak brandy-and-water for diarrhoea, and a tablespoonful in weak brandy-and-water for cholera. Lose no time in sending for medical assistance, when attacked, and inform the medical man of what has been taken.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE British Association for the Advancement of Science have just got through the business of their session; and, considering the amount of work the members of that great mutual improvement society have accomplished, one cannot help believing that the locality in which they have held their meetings must have had no little influence in enabling them to bustle through a whole encyclopædia within little more than a week. Their choice of Birmingham, however, was in many respects judicious; and the splendid hospitality of the Mayor of a place where hospitality is too common to be regarded as a virtue, has well ended those meetings, which will be fitly supplemented by a series of holiday excursions to some of the most beautiful spots in England, forming either the more distant environs or the easily-reached neighbourhoods of "the hardware village."

It is for this facility of communication with all the world, as well as its position in the centre of the iron and coal districts, that has made Birmingham the workshop for the world, and to the same cause, added to the position which it occupies on an elevated circular platform, sloping away to the east and south, it owes its equally-desirable reputation of being one of the healthiest towns in England.

There are few people who are not at least partially acquainted with the appearance of its multitude of great tall chimneys and its queer, outlying, cobbler-stoned streets; few who have not wondered, as they came from the railway-terminus, to find the emporium of a hundred trades so unpretending a place. Curiously enough, though Birmingham was an important town known for the manufacture of arms even in the Roman period, when it was known as *Bremenium* (whence *Brummagem*), it has few of the indications of antiquity, and its rapid advances to the head of manufacturing industry are to be dated only as far back as the middle of the last century and the advent of "machinery in motion." Since that time, however, it has been the head-quarters of everything represented by glass and metal; and its inns, from the marvellous Hen and Chickens, where men play silently at long whist and drink old port in the still seclusion of the commercial-room, to the newest temperance establishment, where lodgers go over the way for a glass of toddy before bedtime, have been the head-quarters of first "bagmen," and now "representatives of commercial houses," ever since the town itself has had a hall.

It is the hall, that is to say, the present Townhall, which is architecturally, the glory of Birmingham, as indeed it might be of any other place. The Townhall is the glory of Birmingham, and Mr. John Bright has been the glory of the Townhall; for there he has delivered some of his most effectual addresses. This Townhall is the Birmingham Acropolis, seen (some part of it at all events) wherever one may be walking, either in the one fine broad street or the more remote cobbler-stone byways. Very grand and stately it looks, this copy of the temple of Jupiter Stator at Rome, with its rustic basement and four façades of magnificent Corinthian pillars: 160 ft. long, 100 ft. wide, and 83 ft. high, no wonder that this superb building should look so strangely amidst the comfortable, neat, red brick houses of the bettermost streets, and the queer, high-shouldered, unprepossessing tenements lying amidst the hundred workshops and factories of the less distinguished quarters.

Queer contrasts, too, are presented by such other public buildings as Birmingham possesses, and which seem in a way to represent that independent individuality that is characteristic of the place and the people, each one separate in itself, and yet all conducting, somehow, to the general advantage. The Gothic proportions of the new grammar school, founded by Edward VI. in 1552, and rebuilt by Mr. Barry in 1834; the theatre, of the Ionic pattern; Queen's College; the hospitals, of which there are several; the schools, societies, chapels, churches, the Dissenting college at Spring Hill, the botanic gardens, the great new Roman Catholic Cathedral, the public baths, and even the Vauxhall, are essentially different in general style, and few of them have any reference whatever to the prevalent style of the ordinary buildings; yet each is admirably adapted to the purpose for which it is intended.

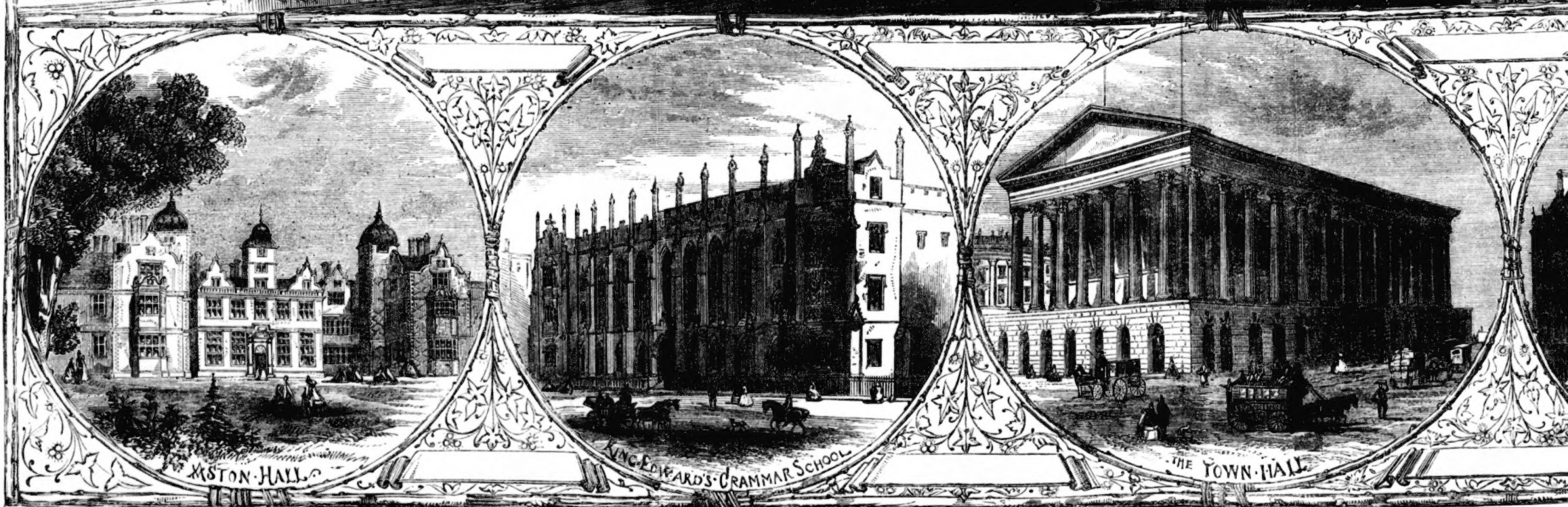
Above all, however, the great tall chimneys dominate, and the odour of smoke pervades every thoroughfare, giving a general dimness to the outsides of houses, halls, and churches. Yet Birmingham is a clean town; its rate of mortality is wonderfully low; and throughout its streets there cannot be found such dirt, misery, and squalor as may easily be discovered in many London neighbourhoods. There must be smoke, for town and suburbs are one continuous series of manufactories, where everything is turned out daily from a steam-engine to a brass button, and from which anything may be ordered at a moment's notice from a thimble to a gross of idols. They even make money in one or two of them (of course they do so in all, in the general sense of accumulating property), but in one or two of them they manufacture coin, and foreign exchequers are replenished (at per thousand gross) with the specie on which their treasures depend. With the control of sixteen wards, and the assistance of forty-eight common councilmen, the Mayor of this great seat of industry must have enough to do; but he has well supported the credit of the town by his banquets to the scientific visitors who are now exploring the neighbourhood. Let them explore. From quiet, pretty Edgbaston right away to Stratford-on-Avon they will find the same kindly hospitality, for the "Birmingham manufacturers" are the equals of the "merchant Princes," both in their good fellowship and in the luxury of the establishments to which they retire away from the factories where their wealth accumulates.

Of the manufactures carried on in this most remarkable of modern towns we have already given many descriptions in these columns, and our readers have only to refer to our series of articles on "Workshops," during the time of the Great Exhibition, to learn more fully on what the prosperity of the workshop of the world itself depends.



J. S. S. MAN del.

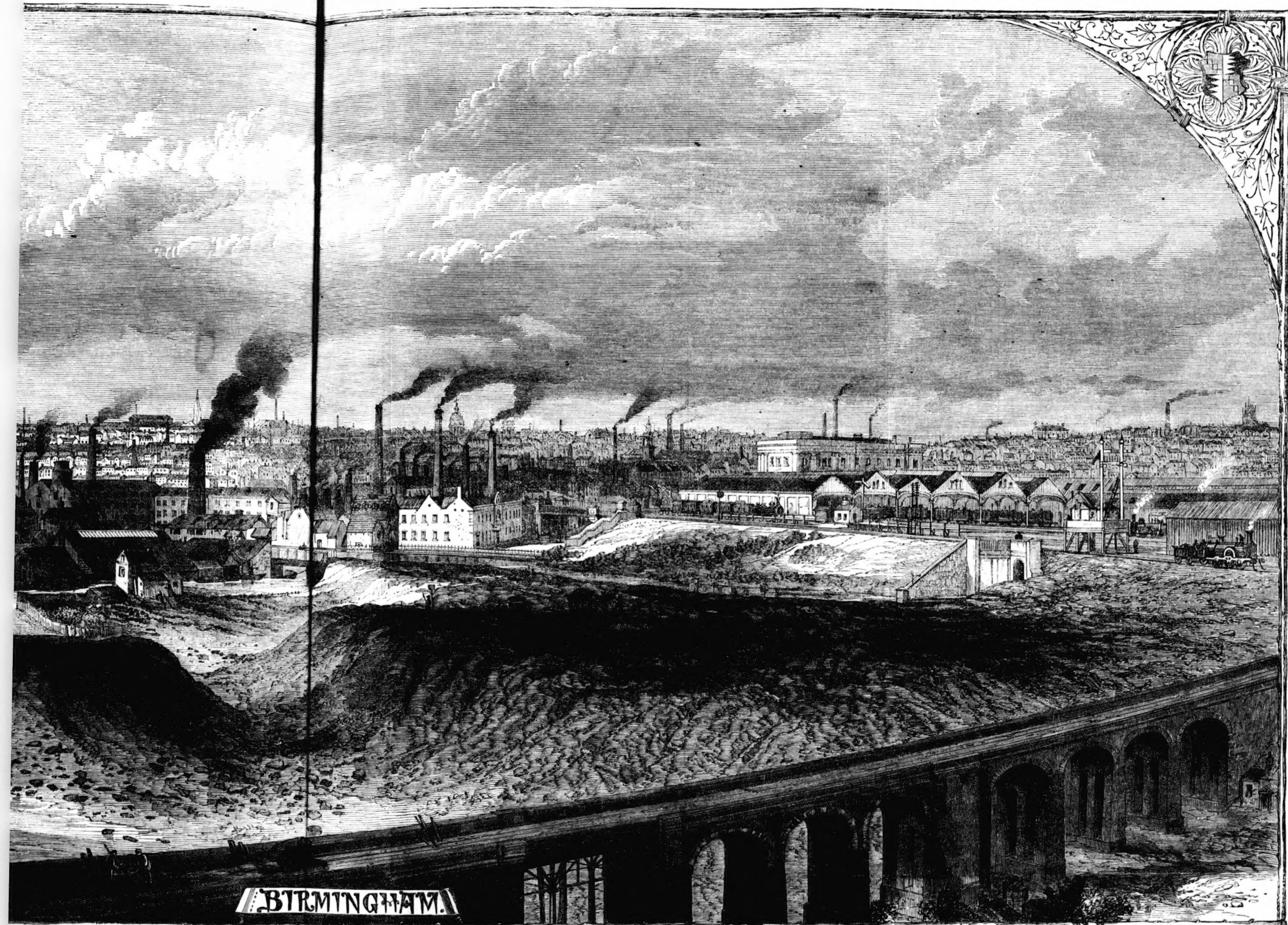
BIRMINGHAM.



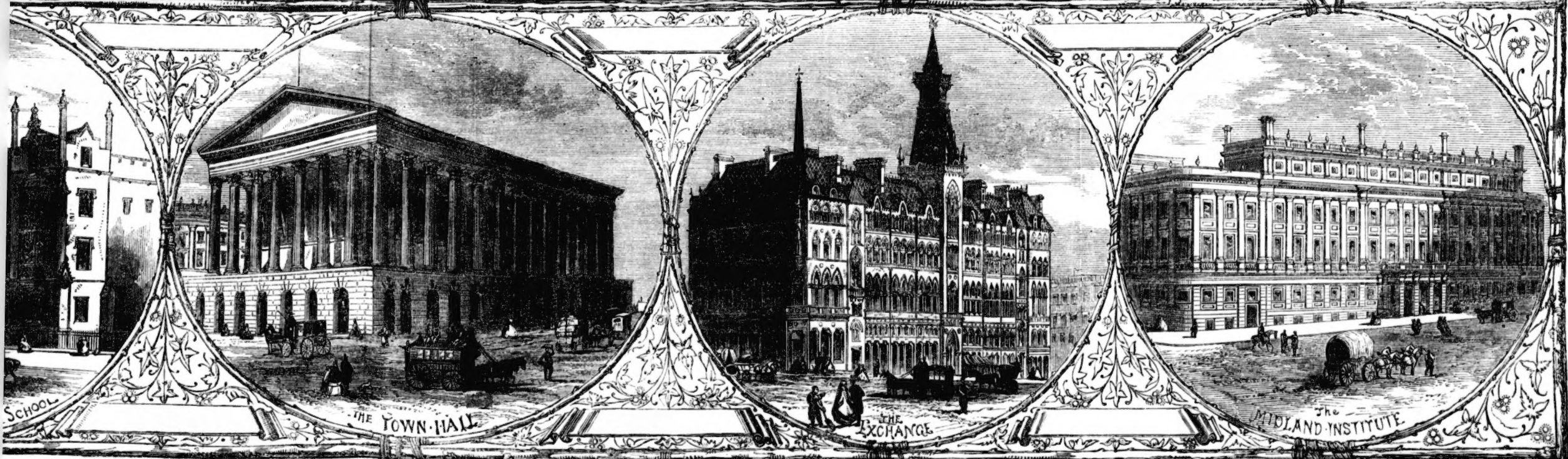
ASTON HALL.

KING EDWARD'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

THE TOWN HALL.



BIRMINGHAM.



SCHOOL.

THE TOWN-HALL.

THE EXCHANGE.

THE MIDLAND INSTITUTE.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

THE COAL MEASURES OF THE MIDLAND COUNTIES.

On the evening of Friday week a lecture was delivered in the Birmingham Townhall, by Mr. Beete Jukes, F.R.S., and local director of the Geological Survey of Ireland, on "The Probabilities as to the Position and Extent of the Coal Measures beneath the Red Rocks of the Midland Counties." The chair was occupied by Professor Phillips, president of the association; and on the platform were Lord Wrottesley, Lord Stanley, Sir R. Murchison, Sir H. Rawlinson, Sir J. Bowring, Sir W. Armstrong, Sir E. Belcher, the Mayor of Birmingham, the Rev. C. Evans (Head Master of King Edward's School, Birmingham), Mr. Crawford, &c. In introducing the lecturer the President said the subject which they were about to have brought under their notice must, he believed, be one of special interest to that neighbourhood, where the thickest of all the coal-beds in Great Britain had been worked with such extreme assiduity that it was found possible to compute the utmost period of its duration; and the subject would be presented to them by a gentleman born in that town, who had devoted many years of his most successful geological efforts to the study of this neighbourhood, and who was respected among all who knew geology as one of our best, foremost, truest, and most practical geologists—Professor Jukes. In commencing his discourse, which was illustrated by copious maps and diagrams, executed on a large scale,

Mr. Jukes said he wished to limit the subject of his lecture to the elucidation of the point that, while there were doubtless large tracts of coal measures, containing good beds of workable coal, concealed under the red rocks of the midland counties, there were certainly some tracts, and possibly many, where there were no coal measures beneath those red rocks. He referred to geological maps, sections, and diagrams to show the order of succession of the different groups of beds with which he had to deal and their relation one to the other. The practical problem for solution, he said, was—Under which part of the new red sandstone do coal measures with workable coals still remain? How thick was that new red covering in those parts? Did the Permian rocks occur there between the new red and the coal measures? This problem was one which might fairly be put before her Majesty's Geological Survey, under Sir R. I. Murchison, with the expectation that some approximation to its solution should be authoritatively stated. Though not authorised to speak for the Director-General or his colleagues, Mr. Jukes would for himself be inclined to accept the responsibility to a certain extent. The Geological Survey should be able better than anyone else to say, first, what was the approximate thickness of the new red sandstone at any locality; secondly, whether Permian rocks would be likely or not to occur below it at that locality, and how thick they would probably be; thirdly, whether it was more or less likely that a good thickness of coal measures should remain undestroyed beneath those two groups of red rock in that locality. Mr. Jukes again referred to diagrammatic sections, showing three possibilities for the upper palaeozoic rocks beneath the plains of Cheshire; the first with a good thickness of coal measures underneath the new red sandstone, isolated patches of Permian only occurring here and there; the second, in which the new red sandstone and Permian remaining the same, the carboniferous rocks were thrown into greater undulations, and the coal measures occasionally denuded, so that the new red sandstone rested directly on carboniferous limestone; and the third, in which the new red sandstone above, and the coal measures below, remaining the same as in the first, a much greater thickness of Permian rock intervened continuously between them, causing the coal measures to lie at an additional depth of many hundred feet below the surface. In his opinion those three supposed cases were almost equally probable, and several combinations of them might possibly occur, rendering the cases still more complicated and the search for coal one of great hazard and uncertainty. What was true for the plain of Cheshire, between the coal-fields of Denbighshire and North Staffordshire, was also true for the other areas of the new red sandstone between the coal-fields and those of Shropshire, South Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Leicestershire, and Nottingham. About the latter district, however, there were large spaces in which it could be predicted with considerable certainty that the new red sandstone had no coal measures beneath it, but reposed directly on millstone grit, carboniferous limestone, or on one of the lower palaeozoic groups. If we looked at the geological map and observed the way in which the coal measures, once so widely spread and so continuous, were now separated into detached coal-fields by areas in which lower rocks appeared at the surface, and recollected that the part not covered by the red rocks might be only a fair representation of the general condition of that which is covered by them, we should be at once aware of the uncertainty of finding coal at all beneath any given district of new red sandstone in the midland counties. Lord Shrewsbury not long ago bored on the down-throw side of the fault at the back of Breerton church, near Rugeley passing through 629 ft. of new red sandstone and through 351 ft. of genuine coal measures below it, but without meeting with any bed of coal such as he is working at his pits a quarter of a mile off. Any exploration in near proximity to one of these boundaries, however, is likely to be more valuable in giving us information as to what we may expect further on than in directly profitable results. Numerous trials have been made of late years in different parts of the red rocks, which could only have a foolish waste of money as their result. Anyone intending to try for coal beneath the red rocks must be prepared to sink boldly a thousand yards before he has a chance of meeting with the coal measures. In such a hazardous speculation we cannot expect private individuals to engage. It must either be undertaken by a combination of proprietors, such as was now being carried out by Messrs. J. S. Dawes within the limits of the South Staffordshire coal-field, near Hales Owen, or it must be undertaken at the expense of the nation. Mr. Jukes declared his own opinion to be that the national importance of determining the extent and position of the coal-fields beneath the red rocks of the midland counties was so vast that the exploration must be made at the national expense, with, of course, every fair provision for its repayment by those most immediately benefited by it.

The lecture was very attentively listened to and warmly applauded throughout. At its conclusion,

Lord Stanley said the subject to which Mr. Jukes had addressed himself was not a subject of pure science, but one of much practical interest, and even of national importance. The question of the possible exhaustion of the coal-fields of England had attracted a good deal of attention, and caused even some degree of anxiety. Nor was that wholly without reason; for, however vast our coal-fields might be, they were yet limited in extent, and, being limited, could not be replaced. Thus we were, so far, living upon our national capital. They all knew how much the prosperity of our country depended upon the prosperity of its manufacturing industry; and that, again, depended in turn upon the cheapness of the supply of fuel. For those that desired to go rather more deeply into the facts of the case, as far as they were known, than was possible within the limits of an oral address, he should recommend two books upon the subject, published within the last two or three weeks—one by Mr. Hull, the other by Mr. Jevons, both gentlemen connected with the Geological Survey. They differed somewhat widely in conclusion. The one took what they might consider a sanguine view of the case, the other a view comparatively despondent; but in both one and the other they would find what was perhaps more important than the inferences of those authors—and that was a very ample stock of materials upon which to found their own conclusions. The question was not whether they could obtain it at such a depth and under such circumstances as would enable them to compete with America or other rising countries better supplied with mineral fuel? All their predictions, however, as to the future must be somewhat vague and conjectural in the present imperfect state of their information, and those who were really best acquainted with the question were careful not to commit themselves to any distinct opinion in regard to it. The noble Lord concluded by proposing a vote of thanks to the able lecturer.

After a few more complimentary words from the president, the vote of thanks was carried by acclamation, and briefly acknowledged.

OCEAN TELEGRAPHY.

Mr. W. Fairbairn, LL.D., read a paper "On some of the Causes of the Failure of Deep-sea Cables, and Experimental Researches on the Permanency of the Insulators." He said:—

The recent disaster and loss of the greater portion of the Atlantic cable is one of those casualties which may be considered national, and may be looked upon as a misfortune much to be regretted, as it delays the completion of one of the most arduous enterprises that has taken place in marine telegraphy. It is, however, suggestive of improvements and the removal of impediments which seem to have beset the last attempts to submerge what was considered the best and most effective construction for a durable and certain communication between this country and America. The lost cable, or that part of it which now rests as a lifeless thread at the bottom of the Atlantic, was unanimously selected by the scientific committee to whom was intrusted a long series of laborious experiments to determine the strength and other mechanical, chemical, and electrical properties of the material of which it was composed; and it may be interesting for the section to know how these experiments were conducted and to what extent they were calculated to form a safe and durable cable. For these details I must refer to my own report published in the transactions of last year, in which will be found the mechanical properties of this and other cables submitted to various experimental tests. In this report, the results deduced from these experiments are given, and we have now to inquire how far they were conducive to carry out the objects of the company in establishing a safe and effective communication between Valencia and Newfoundland. It will be noticed that the late failure of the insulation, submergence, &c., is

not an uncommon occurrence. On the contrary, it has been estimated that out of about 14,000 miles of cable that have been so laid, nearly three fourths of that length have been failures, and that at the present time not more than from 4000 to 5000 miles are in successful operation. These repeated failures and loss of property are much to be deplored; but they have been, like the last great failure, fruitful as the means of accumulating a vast amount of experience, and have suggested remedies for the almost inevitable difficulties that have to be surmounted. There are, however, two things in marine telegraphy which require special attention—viz., the manufacture of the cable and its submergence in deep water. In the first, we may venture to assume that the conducting-wires, insulation, and strength of the cable are satisfactory, and that we have nothing more to do than to lay it quietly in the bed of the ocean. The recent defects of the Atlantic cable and the imperfect insulation of others are, however, important lessons, which prove the necessity of vigilant inspection of every yard of cable as it is manufactured in the first instance, and its careful preservation until it is safely deposited at the bottom of the ocean in the second. All these conditions were supposed to have been carefully attended to in the manufacture of the Atlantic cable. When it was run from the machines into the water-tanks at the manufactory, from these again into the steamer conveying it to Sheerness, and ultimately into those of the Great Eastern, where it was carefully coiled for final immersion—every possible care was taken. But, notwithstanding the precautions exercised by the manufacturing company, small pieces of wire, on three different occasions, were found sticking in the cable, in contact with the conducting-wires, and destructive of the insulation. Now, these very trifling circumstances were the whole and sole cause of the loss of the cable; and it may be necessary, as we proceed, to advert to the subsequent trials of underlaying, dredging, fishing, and hauling which ensued, and which finally terminated in the loss of nearly two thirds of the cable. In my paper of last year I gave a full account of the experiments and results which led to the manufacture of the present cable, and I closed with the remark, that "I had not entered upon the process of immersion, either in tanks or in the sea; and the question of coiling, shipping, submergence, &c., were left for future inquiry." I was in hopes that this inquiry would not have been necessary, except only to prove that the machines and every other appliance on board the Great Eastern had effectually performed their respective duties, and that we had only to record them as contributory to one of the most successful enterprises that had been achieved in modern times. In these, our most sanguine hopes, we have been disappointed, and we have simply to inquire what extra precautions should be taken to prevent a similar occurrence in laying the next cable, which I hope to see done, with perfect success and without interruption, at the bottom of the Atlantic.

Having spoken approvingly of the paying-out machinery of the Great Eastern, the paper spoke of the difficulties attending paying out. On the subject of splicing, the paper went on to say:—

If those pieces of wire which penetrated the gutta-percha had not been there, the cable would at the present moment have been in full activity, and in regular communication with the American States, and it is much to be regretted that this cable, so strong and so powerful in its resistance to strain, so well executed, and so full of promise, should have failed. With regard to the Great Eastern, never was a company more fortunate in having such a vessel for such a purpose. She proved herself everything that could be wished for. Her easy, steady motion was just what was required for paying out the cable, and its relief from any undue strain by the pitching of the vessel renders the big ship exclusively calculated for the submergence of submarine cables in deep water. She is the very thing that is wanted for such a purpose, and I firmly believe if she were properly fitted and prepared for such a service, with some additional stringers to strengthen the upper decks and sides, she would find full employment as a submerger of cables in every sea which divides the four quarters of the globe.

As to the recovery of the lost cable, the paper went on to say that such a process was at all times a precarious operation, and especially so in the case of the Atlantic cable. If that cable were raised at all, it must be at an exceedingly slow speed, and that with one end loose, otherwise he should despair of raising it from a depth of 2100 fathoms by hooking it in the light or middle, where the resistance would be doubled in raising two sides instead of one. This proposition was illustrated by reference to diagrams, after which the paper recommended the cutting of the cable on the American side, after making it fast with a second grapple. The object of this recommendation was to escape the enormous strain by hauling it up in the middle. This appeared to be a remedy calculated to meet the difficulties of the case; but the only feasible plan which suggested itself was to commence *de novo*, not to lay a new cable, but to place the Great Eastern under the cable at Valencia, and pluck it up at a rate proportionate to the depth of water from which it had to be abstracted.

The paper concluded with an elaborate series of tables, showing the result of experiment as to the materials used in the construction of cables, to which the paper attached great importance.

A discussion followed the reading of this paper, in which Mr. R. W. Thomson, F.R.S., Mr. William Smith, C.E., Mr. Glaisher, F.R.S., and Captain Selwyn took part. The latter recommended that which he designated as the seaman's way of laying the cable—viz., laying it from floating reels to be dragged behind the vessel commissioned to carry out the work. It was entirely in the laying of the cable, he contended, that the whole damage had arisen, because cables that had once been laid had worked well. He objected to the spiral form of the cable, on the ground that the upper part was sure to twist by the strain, and the lower part twisted up as it lay on the bottom. He expressed doubt as to the suitability of the Great Eastern for the purpose, on the ground that she rocked more violently than other vessels when a real storm arose. He recommended the employment of two vessels in the attempt to raise the cable, and concluded by declaring his conviction that the expense and difficulty connected with the enterprise might be greatly reduced.

THE CATTLE PLAQUE.

DISINFECTION.

The Privy Council having directed Dr. J. L. W. Thudicum to prepare a memorandum on the principles and practice of disinfection, as applicable to the prevailing disease among cattle, that gentleman has submitted to their Lordships a document which has been printed for circulation in the proper quarters. The paper, which is of considerable length, and amply particular on the subject, commences with the following valuable definition and general statement of principles:—

1. The term disinfection signifies the removal or destruction, and subsequent removal of the products of destruction, of all matters actually being or containing products of disease capable of reproducing disease in other animals.

2. If the same processes and means as used for this purpose are applied to the purification and deodorisation of places and things not actually infected, but capable or suspected of being infected, then these preventive measures are practically and properly included under the definition of disinfection.

3. The reproducers of the infectious matter or contagion are all kinds of cattle of the ox tribe, which also are at present in this country the only animals liable to its specific effects. It is probable that the contagion adheres with particular pertinacity to all secretions and discharges from sick animals. For this reason, faeces or droppings, urine, ruminated food, all secretions from the mouth, nose, and eyes, and any sore parts of the surface of the diseased animals, must be considered as the principal and primary carriers of the infectious matter or plague poison. It is also probable that many parts of animals which have died from the cattle plague, or have been killed during advanced stages of the disease, are infectious, some because they are primarily imbued with the contagion, others because they have been in contact with it after the death of the animal. Skins, hides, hair, horns, and hoofs must therefore always be treated with precaution. The chances of infection by flesh, fat, cleaned guts, and blood are perhaps more remote, but cannot be lost sight of.

4. The cattle plague, although affecting every part of the animal, shows its visible effects most extensively in the intestinal canal. It is believed, and apparently upon good grounds, that the intestinal discharges are the principal agents upon the distribution of which mainly depends the spread of the disorder.

5. It follows from the above that all articles which have been in contact with a diseased animal, or any of its discharges, particularly its faeces, are capable of carrying the infection for an indefinite time, and must be looked upon as being actually infectious to other healthy animals. Such are racks of wood or iron; cribs or mangers of wood, iron, or stone; articles used for fastening animals, leather collars and straps, ropes, and chains; all harness of any animals used for drawing, and all carts, waggon, and carriages which they have actually been drawing; the stalls or sheds in which animals have been standing; the whole lengths of the gutters and drains through which their urine has been flowing; the entire surface over which their manure has been drawn, and all implements with which the removal has been effected; the entire dungheap upon which infected manure has been put, and the fluid contents of the manure pit, or of the special receptacle for the urine; yards or sheds in which cattle have been kept to tread down long straw, and the whole of such straw and manure, as also the ground beneath them; paths and roads on which diseased cattle have walked or been carried; fields and meadows upon which

they have been grazing; all carts, carriages, trucks, and railway-trucks in which diseased cattle have been conveyed, and all the platforms, railings, bridges, and boards upon which they have been moved thereto; as also all apparatus which has been used to pen, tie, lift, haul, lower, and fix them; the clothes, and particularly shoes and boots, and iron-pointed sticks of drivers, and their dogs; the apparel of all cattle-herds or attendants, particularly their shoes and boots; the shoes and boots of all persons visiting places where diseased cattle are or have been standing; and, in general, the clothes of all persons visiting infected places, ships, and all parts of the platforms, stages, stairs and bridges, hoists and cranes used for embarking and landing the animals; markets, and all sheds, and pens, and implements used in contact with cattle; slaughter-houses, and all persons and implements in them which have been employed upon sick cattle, as also sundry parts or organs which come from sick animals killed in slaughter-houses; knackers' yards, trucks or carts, horses, men, and implements which have been employed in the disposal of sick or dead animals; wells and ponds from which diseased cattle have been drinking, or into which any portion of their excreta has had any opportunity of flowing, directly or indirectly; all fodder, grass, hay, straw, clover, &c., and particularly remnants of fodder upon which diseased cattle have been feeding; and, in general, all persons, animals, places, buildings, and movable things which have been in contact with matters proceeding from diseased cattle, or with such diseased cattle themselves. To the above-mentioned places and things any of the processes and agents enumerated and described in the following may have to be applied.

Dr. Thudicum then sets forth in detail the several practices of disinfection, as by earth (burying); by fire (burning); by chloride of lime, applicable specially to the surface of things and places; special directions for the disinfection of stables, sheds, vans, railway trucks, and cattle-ships, and of persons and things connected with them; disinfection of live stock. A quarantine shed is next described and recommended, as well as a safety dress for inspectors and others who may come in contact with animals actually suffering from the plague. Measures which should be taken on premises where the plague has actually broken out are set forth at length, as well as a mode of disinfecting meadows, fields, roads, &c. The memorandum is concluded with the following general recommendations:—

In conclusion, it must be pointed out to farmers, dairymen, and all persons having charge of cattle, that the same great measures which are known to maintain and restore the health of human beings will also maintain and restore the health of cattle. Pure air; dry, spacious, well-ventilated and well-drained clean sheds; clean and dry meadows; plenty of pure water; frequent carrying and washing; the prevention of the development by the destruction of the germs of internal and external parasites, particularly antecozs; proper food in suitable quantities and at proper times; protection from inclement weather; the utmost cleanliness in the removal of manure; the storing of manure at a great distance from the cattle-shed; and, in addition, the most conscientious observance of the precautionary and disinfecting measures above described. All these measures, and agents together will secure the utmost possible health of stock and the prosperity of the agriculturist and dairymen. But the neglect of any one of them will make the stock liable to become infected, and the more so the more several or all collateral conditions of the healthy existence of animals are neglected. The negligent man is therefore certain to lose, to injure his neighbor by defeating his precautions, and to damage society; but the watchful and painstaking man will be rewarded not only by the preservation of his property, but particularly by the consciousness that it has been preserved by his own care and attention, and that thereby he has also benefited the State.

THE GREAT FIRE AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

THIS terrible fire, we regret to state, has been attended with a far more serious loss of property than was expected when the first telegram was sent to London, and it now turns out that no fewer than 2800 houses, public buildings, and places dedicated to Divine service have been for the most part levelled with the ground. There are certainly a few exceptions, where the walls are standing, but the principal mosques are now nowhere to be seen. The accounts forwarded to the different insurance companies in the City are of a harrowing nature. Some idea of the extent of the sufferings of over 22,500 persons may be judged of when they had to rush out of their habitations almost naked to escape from the ravages of the flames.

It would appear that the conflagration commenced in a building two stories high. From that part the flames spread with rapidity, igniting in succession whole rows of houses and stores on the north-west side. The scene amongst the poor people was pitiable in the extreme. The meagre means of contending with such a fire were found perfectly inadequate, and added to that the water supply was equally inefficient. Explosions of a fearful character followed in rapid succession, and it was feared that, as the buildings came tumbling down, several men who were assisting had been crushed to death. It was not, however, clearly stated whether any lives had been sacrificed, the excitement and confusion being so great that the agents of the different insurance offices were unable to ascertain; but there was strong ground for supposing that a great loss of life had taken place.

It was found perfectly impracticable to obtain shelter for the whole of the burnt-out people and their children, and they had to content themselves by sleeping in fields and gardens near.

The principal portions of the houses were composed in a great measure of timber, which, of course, will account for the extraordinary spread of the flames. No conflagration of such magnitude has taken place since the burning of the city of Hamburg, and it is stated that more persons have lost their homes and all they possessed than was the case at that conflagration.

Mr. Hodsoll, assessor of losses, and several other gentlemen belonging to the different fire offices, have sent specially down to ascertain how the insurance companies of the City and provincial towns are interested; and also to inquire into the cause of the terrible calamity, and how many persons are left unprovided for.

Measures have been taken to get up a subscription for the housing of the poor burnt-out creatures, which it is to be hoped will be liberally responded to by the more fortunate inhabitants.

POST-OFFICE SAVINGS-BANKS.—Commencing in September, 1861, with 300 banks, the Post Office authorities have extended the number so rapidly that in July, 1865, no less than 3219 of these depositories for the savings of the people were open for business. There were at this latter date 546,262 accounts open, and the amount standing to the credit of the depositors was £5,864,563. These banks had received 3,331,812 deposits, amounting to £10,281,316, and the withdrawals had numbered 8,317,755, and amounted to £4,589,953. No less than 747,948 persons had opened accounts with the post-office banks, and as many as 201,686 persons had closed their accounts. The average amount to the credit of each account was but £6 9s. 9d. at the close of the year 1861; in July, 1865, it was £10 14s. 6d. The sums transferred from the older savings-banks to the post-office banks have only amounted to about £1,350,000 of the whole £10,281,000; and more than a third of the entire amount transferred came from the Birmingham savings-bank, which closed voluntarily. Considerable sums were also transferred in consequence of other old savings-banks relinquishing business. The recent closing of the savings-bank at Canterbury has resulted in the transfer of about £127,000 to the post-office banks.

A BRAVE MAN.—Mr. Joseph Cox, who is coxswain of the Appledore, North Devon, life-boat, has, during the past forty years, assisted in the life-boats in saving 170 persons from various vessels wrecked on Bideford Bar. Cox is now in his sixty-third year, but is still hale and hearty. The secretary of the National Life-boat Institution visited the Appledore life-boat station on Monday last, when he found everything in excellent order and reflecting much credit on the brave old man. It is most interesting to hear him narrate his hair-breadth escapes during storms which appalled the lookers-on, and even some men of his own crew; but his daring and perseverance overcame, under Providence, every difficulty. It sometimes occurred that his crew became completely exhausted before accomplishing their mission of mercy—the fierce storm, the huge waves, and the intense frost completely paralysing them. Some four or five years ago his crews were actually changed four times between the hours of six in the morning and eight at night, when several wrecks took place on the bar; but Cox never flinched for a moment; he remained then, as on all previous occasions, fixed to the life-boat's helm. He has received every honorary decoration which the National Life-boat Institution could confer on him in addition to his salary as coxswain of its life-boat. He is also employed by the Trinity House to look after the buoys on Bideford Bar. His admiration of the new life-boat which the Institution was enabled to send to Appledore through the generosity of the late Rev. F. W. Hope, about twelve months ago, is unbounded. He asserts that there is no sea he would not face with the boat. On the opposite shore, on Brantton Sands, the Institution maintains another first-class life-boat station. The life-boat house there has been built on piles fixed in the sands. It is far from any dwelling, if we except the lighthouse, which is about a mile from it. The secretary of the National Life-boat Institution has recently visited nearly all the life-boats on the coast of Devon and Cornwall. He has found the boats, everywhere, in excellent order, and their crews thoroughly satisfied with them and the payments they so promptly receive from the parent Institution for their services.

Literature.

Miscellaneous Essays, Critical and Theological. By the Rev. WILLIAM KIRKUS, LL.B. London: Longman.

Mr. Kirkus belongs to a class of writers never numerous, and always particularly liable to be misunderstood—or, perhaps, it would be better to say liable to be taken amiss. The most obvious characteristic of his intellect is its great alertness; and all critical experience teaches that this is a quality which is sure to expose a writer occupying himself with serious topics to at least four charges—discursiveness, superficiality, irreverence, and ill-temper. Neither of these charges can, as we think, be fairly laid at the door of Mr. Kirkus. But the way in which such writers get themselves taken amiss by the general reader is plain. In point of fact, Mr. Kirkus is visibly a man of an affectionate and reverential spirit, and of such rapid sympathies that he cannot disengage his emotive from his intellectual activity as formally as most writers do when they engage in controversy or criticism. The consequence is that he writes in the mood of a man who is speaking face to face with another; and so his writing, whatever may be the form, is always charged with emotion. If it is to be read fairly it must be read dramatically—with tone and emphasis; with an "expression" the force of which the reader must have gathered from the whole of what is before him. If the man is read in this way, it will often be found that what appears ill-tempered is simply playful—must be taken with the reservation of a twinkle in the eye or a "compunctious" tone in the voice; and that, if we find him irreverent, the fault is ours and not his—ours, because we fail to take him as he is, and to follow him in the extreme rapidity of his moods.

One curious point about Mr. Kirkus as a controversialist is that he does not seem to trouble himself about giving his adversary the *coup de grace*, and being done with him. He seems to go on stabbing at him, and drawing blood in all sorts of places; and even when he has left him he quits the exhausted *corpus vile* of his antagonist with an air of not having done with it. "That'll do for the present; but I shall come back some day and give you another dig, you know." The reason we judge to be that, though Mr. Kirkus cannot help being aggressive when anything wrong is going forward, he would much rather be in sympathy with everybody; so that even his attack, except where it is utterly contemptuous, of which this volume furnishes one example—is, in his own mind, a sort of recurring expostulation with his antagonist. First, Mr. Kirkus finds fault; then comes a wave of sympathy. This cannot be allowed expression, because that would be irrelevant; so there is a kind of break, and then comes another dig in the ribs. An attack by this gentleman might be represented somewhat in this way:—"What a fool you are!" [Subauditor: "There's something nice about you."] "Then what makes you so very dull?" [Subauditor: "If we could only agree! It seems to me that you must see the absurdity of this."] "That, you know, is downright nonsense; what do you do it for?"—and so on. But the public does not catch the *subauditor*—does not see the kindly twinkle in the eye—does not hear the tone or seize the emphasis. An emotional writer, with little reserve, like Mr. Kirkus, always writes as if the public *did* seize all this—writing as if he were speaking; and hence he gets taken amiss. The case is without remedy; but, for our parts, we believe that (to use the words of James Martineau) the writings of Mr. Kirkus "misrepresent the order of his convictions;" and that he would do something towards setting himself right with his "mistakers," and something as useful to serious readers as delightful to himself, if he would give us something not controversial.

Meanwhile, this is a book we can warmly commend to our readers. So much candour, so much culture, so much vigour of thought, so much brightness of manner (with not infrequent touches of humour) one rarely sees brought to discussions so wide in range, and applied to the production of a readable book. The information which may be gathered from Mr. Kirkus, write what he will, is, in itself, a thing not to be despised; and even very hasty passages, if read with sympathy, become pregnant with meaning. The subjects of the essays are very varied—Charles Dickens; True Womanliness, in relation to Marriage Law and Custom; Plato's *Republic* (compare with Whewell and Lewis); the Book of Common Prayer; and several others. The paper on "Ecclesiastes" is very interesting. Is Mr. Kirkus aware of what has been written by James Martineau upon that subject?

Major Jack Downing, of the Downingville Militia. Frederick Warne and Co.

Major Jack Downing is unmistakably a fiction himself, as well as the book about him, and as unmistakably an American importation. The Major's little volume is of the genuine type known as Yankee, and his compositions take the favourite form of "letters to the editor." This being the case, it follows that the language is not English, that the spelling is grotesque, and that the substance is frequently of the coarsest kind. People need not be over-fastidious to object to these drawbacks; but, whatever the reader's temperament be, he may rest assured that there is real fun and genuine sarcasm in Major Jack Downing. He describes himself as having been the right hand man of President Jackson (a former book is spoken of—we have never heard of it), and now, in old age, he professes to have guided Mr. Lincoln during the first three years of the war. The present collection of letters are, from first to last, hard hitting at the late President and his Ministers; and, written as they probably were in the President's lifetime, formed a fair political squib. But reprinted here and now, after the terrible fate of Mr. Lincoln, the jokes, the anecdotes, and the very clever criticism on past policy, come with a very grim humour. The responsibility of that hangs upon others, and is of but little concern here. Our duty is to speak of the book as we find it, or, perhaps, as we should have found it some twelve months since. The impudence of the Major is beyond all question. If he does not assume command of everything, he at least shows the Lincoln Cabinet how all are wrong. The book is liberally studied with apropos stories in the Lincoln style, while the Major in his own person tells as many stories, and much better. To send readers to the book a mingled specimen is subjoined, in which Mr. Lincoln has the best of it, whilst at the same time exposing his weakness and incapacity.

"Wal," sez Linkin, "what am I to do? There ain't no doubt that my party are all aanty-slavery, and a good menny of 'em out and out immediate Abolishinists. They are a pullin me like all possessed. They've got hold of my feet, my toes, my cote-tale, my trousers, and pullin away as ef they meant to rip every rag of clothin off me, and I don't feel sure but they'll pull my legs off my body. I am holdin on as hard as I kin, but I feel as ef my hold was slippin. Now, what on arth am I to do?"

"Wal," sez I, "Kerrel, there's nothin like getten a fresh hold wen you feel that you are slippin. So jest spit on your hands, as the saylors do, and take a new hold."

"Now, Major," says Linkin, "that reminds me of a story. Some Irishmen were once diggin a well, and by sum means the rope on the windless broke, and the bucket went down to the bottom. How to get it was the question. After plannin and thinkin for some time, Paddy O'Brien, who was the boss, he ses to Teddy O'Flanagan, ses he, 'I will take hold of the windless with my hands, and Teddy, you take hold of my legs, and let Patrick take hold of Teddy's legs, and so on, until we can get down to the bucket and rache it up.' So they all went at it; but it warnt long before Paddy found that the heft was too grate for him, and he felt that his hold on the windless was slippin. So he sung out to Teddy, who was below him, ses he, 'Teddy, me boy, could fast there till I spit on me hands?' an, as he let go in spit on his hands, down the hull party went to the bottom of the well. Now," sez Linkin, ses he, "that would be jest the way with me. Ef I let go to spit on me hands, down my hull party will go, and no one will ever see it agin."

"Wal," sez I, "Kerrel, ef you go down in that way you will be on top!" "That's a fact," sez Linkin. "I didn't think of that; but then, who would want to be on the top of such a party? You see, ef the party had any timber in it that you could use to make another out of, there would be sum prospect ahead. But, ye ses, that ain't. The stuff is cross-grained and knotty, and a good deal of it mity rotten. Ef I could spit it about half in two, so as to weld one piece on to the Democratic party, I would do that. But you can't spit it any more than you can a pepperage log. I know sumthin about splittin, and ef any man could do it I could. No, Major, ef my party goes to pieces at all, it will brake up into a thousand splinters, jest like a chestnut-tree when it is struck by lightning."

There is genuine humour in the way of telling the story and

deducing the moral, and the crestfallen friends of the South will relish two hundred and fifty pages like the specimen above. At the same time the friends of the North can afford not to complain.

Love: A Selection from the best Poets. By THOMAS SHORTER. London: Pitman.

As a rule, we don't like selections, because they generally mean mutilations, and that is very objectionable, whether the subject be literary or human. But this volume is not so open to this objection as most of its class. Love passages can usually be disintegrated from their context with less mischief than those of a different character; and in this selection by Mr. Shorter we have effusions in which the working of the master passion is exceedingly well depicted. Here are extracts from the writings of Shakespeare, Scott, Byron, Moore, Rogers, Keats, Burns, Camoens, Tannabill, Motherwell (including from this author, that most pathetic piece, "Jeannette Morrison"), and a host of other poets. It is curious, however, that, while the best things of perhaps the truest and most genuine poet of love that ever lived are given—we mean Burns—the piece has been missed in which occur those exquisite lines:—

Had we never loved so kindly,
Had we never loved so blindly,
Never met and never parted,
We had ne'er been broken-hearted;

which were adopted by Byron as a motto for his "Bride of Abydos," and which Sir Walter Scott declared "contained the essence of a thousand love tales." We have lent the volume to a lady, and she declares that she never found so many "nice things" in one book before. Can we say anything stronger in praise of this selection, or of the poets from whom the selection has been made?

The Politics of the People. By One of Themselves. London: Murby.

This book, which has an alternative title of "Reason Rhymed by a Radical," belongs to that extreme school of literature which is very confident, very dogmatic, and very foolish. Because enough is not done by Liberal statesmen to please the author, he launches out into denunciations of Whigs, making the great mistake of confounding all Liberals under the denomination of statesmen described by the word "Whig," and forgetting, moreover, that all the privileges he and his class enjoy have been conferred upon them by Whigs. Who abolished the Test and Corporation Acts, who repealed Sidmouth and Castlereagh's gagging bills, who reformed Parliament and the corporations, who conferred freedom on the slaves in the British colonies, who, practically, passed Catholic emancipation and corn-law repeal, who abolished the navigation laws and gave us thoroughly free trade, who removed the disabilities of the Jews, and who are likely to pass other measures of a like character when they are wanted, except those same Whigs whom our author vituperates so heartily? We are neither bound nor inclined to indiscriminately worship Whigs and Whig doings; but we dislike ingratitude, and despise shallow ranters who cannot see that the party they condemn have been the authors of all the good legislation of the country for the last fifty years. Men like the author of these rhymes would be willing to support—and be gulled by—that other governing party, the Tories, who have opposed all change, who will oppose all change, who only adopt Liberal cries for a pretence, and to whose tender mercies we should like to condemn this so-called rhyming radical and all his silly co-opinionists. The author can rhyme—a little; but we don't think he can judge at all. The most shallow common-places pass with him for political wisdom, and his whole merit is that he can grumble in not very tolerable verse.

Our Domestic Fireplaces: A Treatise on the Economical Use of Fuel and the Prevention of Smoke. With Observations on the Patent Laws. By FREDERICK EDWARDS, jun. London: Hardwicke.

As the exhaustibility of our stock of fuel—in other words, of our coal-fields—and the consequent necessity of economy in its use, forms the subject of at least one paper at each meeting of the British Association and of the Social Science Congress; and as improvements in domestic cookery are every day becoming of greater interest and importance, this treatise by Mr. Edwards is exceedingly well-timed and valuable. The writer is a practical man, thoroughly acquainted with his subject, and though himself a manufacturer of firegrates, does not seem to be biased unduly in favour of his own inventions. His book may serve the purpose of an advertisement for the goods manufactured by the firm with which he is connected; but that is evidently not the intention with which it has been written, and can, at most, be only an incidental result; while it certainly contains a vast deal of valuable information on the subject of which it treats. As fuel forms no inconsiderable item in the domestic expenditure of every household, and as the means of cooking food in a satisfactory as well as a cheap fashion are as yet unknown at the hearths of the poor, no better service could be rendered than by pointing how both these objects may be attained; and this Mr. Edwards has to a large extent done. A blazing fire, in a wide, open grate, is no doubt very pleasant to the eye, and is, moreover, in accordance with English tastes and prejudices; but it is an exceedingly wasteful arrangement, notwithstanding. A large amount of fuel is consumed, and a great deal of heat dissipated, with comparatively insignificant beneficial results. To show by what arrangement of our fireplaces these evils can be obviated, and how the maximum of advantage may be obtained by the minimum of expenditure of fuel, is the object of Mr. Edwards's book; and, as it does so in a very able, interesting, and plain manner, we cordially recommend it. Builders, house proprietors, and the members of those public bodies on whom devolve the duty of erecting, or superintending the erection of, our dwellings, should carefully study the work, and test its principles in practice. The chapter on the operation of the patent laws will be particularly interesting and instructive at the present time, when the usefulness of those laws is being seriously called in question.

Charlie Thornhill; or, The Dunces of the Family. By CHARLES CLARKE, Author of "Box for the Season." "Crumbs from a Sportsman's Table." London: Chapman and Hall.

This is a cheap reprint of a novel which must be familiar to the reading public. There is nothing original in the leading idea of "Charlie Thornhill," because the "dunces of the family" has more than once before been made to turn out to be really the most substantially, though not the most showily, clever member of the family circle. Brooke's "Fool of Quality" is one instance, and Bulwer's "Devereux" is another. Brooke and Sir Bulwer Lytton, however, treated their subject in very different styles; and the present writer deals with a similar idea in a manner different from either. The book is really a very clever book, and though familiar to periodical readers and subscribers to circulating libraries, will, in its present cheap form, be acceptable to a large circle who have not hitherto had an opportunity of reading it. There is in it sufficient variety of incident and character: schoolboy adventures, sporting scenes, daring feats of horsemanship performed by both men and women, poaching characters, commercial affairs, farming, and sketches of Irish life generally—for the scene is partly laid in the sister isle—love, intrigue, villany, and all the usual features of the modern novel, but all worked out in a very pleasant way, and in decidedly superior language and style. Altogether, a most amusing book.

Bacon's Chart of the Atlantic Telegraph. G. W. Bacon and Co. London.

Messrs. Bacon have here published a very interesting, though brief, history of telegraphy generally, as well as of the origin and progress of the Atlantic telegraph, a description of the old and new cables, &c. The chart is illustrated by coloured maps, engravings, diagrams, views, and so on, and is an exceedingly well-timed and useful publication.

THE NAVAL FETES AT BREST.

WE have already published particulars, accompanied with Illustrations, of the fêtes with which the English squadron was welcomed at Cherbourg; and we are now able to present our readers with Engravings representing some of the incidents which occurred at Brest.

Maritime festivals are generally so much alike that, but for the skill and taste, as well as the good fellowship, which are the happy characteristics of our allies, there would be little to record beyond what has already been made known as belonging to the reception at Cherbourg.

There is no need to enter into any description here of the great naval fortress commenced under Richelieu and extended by Vauban, which extends so far into the Atlantic that it is said to be the wettest place in France; no need to dwell upon the difficult passage to the Rade by the gullet, or throat, bristling with artillery for teeth; nor to take our readers through the clean upper or the dirty lower town, with their steep streets, and all the magazines, roperies, naval barracks, hospitals, victualling stores, ship-building sheds and slips, which belong to so large a station. Our Engravings have more to do with the Rade, that inlet of the Atlantic where the ships themselves ride at anchor, and where the most impressive part of the recent reception took place. All the town, however, was the scene of such unusual animation that even the inhabitants could scarcely have known it in its gala dress, and from the moment when the English squadron was expected everything was *en fête* and in holiday attire. Directly the approach of the fleet was signalled, everybody bore down upon the places where they could obtain the most favourable position for witnessing the spectacle. From the lighthouse of Corric to St. Matthew, from Lamienon to St. Anne, every spot was crowded; and on the promenade of Eyat, which traverses the side of the harbour, there was scarcely a square foot of standing room unoccupied.

The Edgar, bearing the Admiral's flag, was the first of the English vessels to appear at Spanish Point, and she saluted with twenty-one guns, which were at once returned by a salvo from the Solferino, which bore the flag of Admiral Bouët-Willamez; then followed, in admirable order, the five ironclads of the squadron—the Hector, Defence, Black Prince, Achilles, and Prince Consort, with the yachts bearing the Duke of Somerset and the Lords of the Admiralty. The defiling of these great vessels and their assumption of their various berths was a magnificent sight, the yards being manned and the whole of the rigging decorated with flags; and, during the whole time that they were engaged in taking up their position, the enthusiasm amongst the spectators was positively electric. The harbour was alive with pleasure-boats and merchant-vessels, and everything united to make the occasion one not to be forgotten by anyone who witnessed it. It was no wonder that "hurrahs" and "vivas" blended in one great shout, or, rather, two cries, crossing from sea to shore and back again, a hundred times repeated.

The official fêtes which followed this spectacle consisted, in the first place, of the banquets given by the French to the English officers; and these were rendered, if possible, of still greater interest by the presence of a chieftain who has become famous in the world's history, Abd-el-Kader. The first of these banquets was given to seventy guests, by the French Vice-Admiral, on board the Solferino; the second, on board the Couronne, to 500 of the officers of inferior rank; and the third, which was the most brilliant and jovial, by the French to the English cadets and midshipmen, on board the Normande.

In the evening a grand ball took place on board the Ville de Lyon, and this portion of the fête had been anxiously anticipated, not only by the officers and other male guests, but by the fairer visitors, who knew that their presence would make it the culminating point of the ceremonies of the day. The decorations of the vessel were superb: she was absolutely clothed in gay flags, and the deck was entirely covered in by an awning. A magnificent trophy occupied the forward part, consisting of an eagle holding in his claws a great cross of honour, and spreading his wings over an immense sheaf of arms and flags. On the right and left two large palm-trees were erected, the long leaves of which were formed of sword-blades and bayonets; and in the centre of the deck a superb basket of white and gold, filled with flowers and foliage, served as an orchestra for the band. The main poop was transformed, as if by enchantment, into the resemblance of an English garden, in which flowers grew in beds traversed by real gravel walks, and little fountains and cascades purred and tinkled their soft music. This was, in fact, alike the most exquisite of all the arrangements and the most delicate of all the compliments, by which our allies sought to bid us welcome. In the ball-room, countless wax candles were supported by bayonets, which had never before been put to so peaceful a use as that of a candlestick; and thirty chandeliers were also suspended beneath the awning, and lighted the glittering spectacle of rich uniforms, jewels, and bright, soft colours, moving here and there to the music of the orchestra.

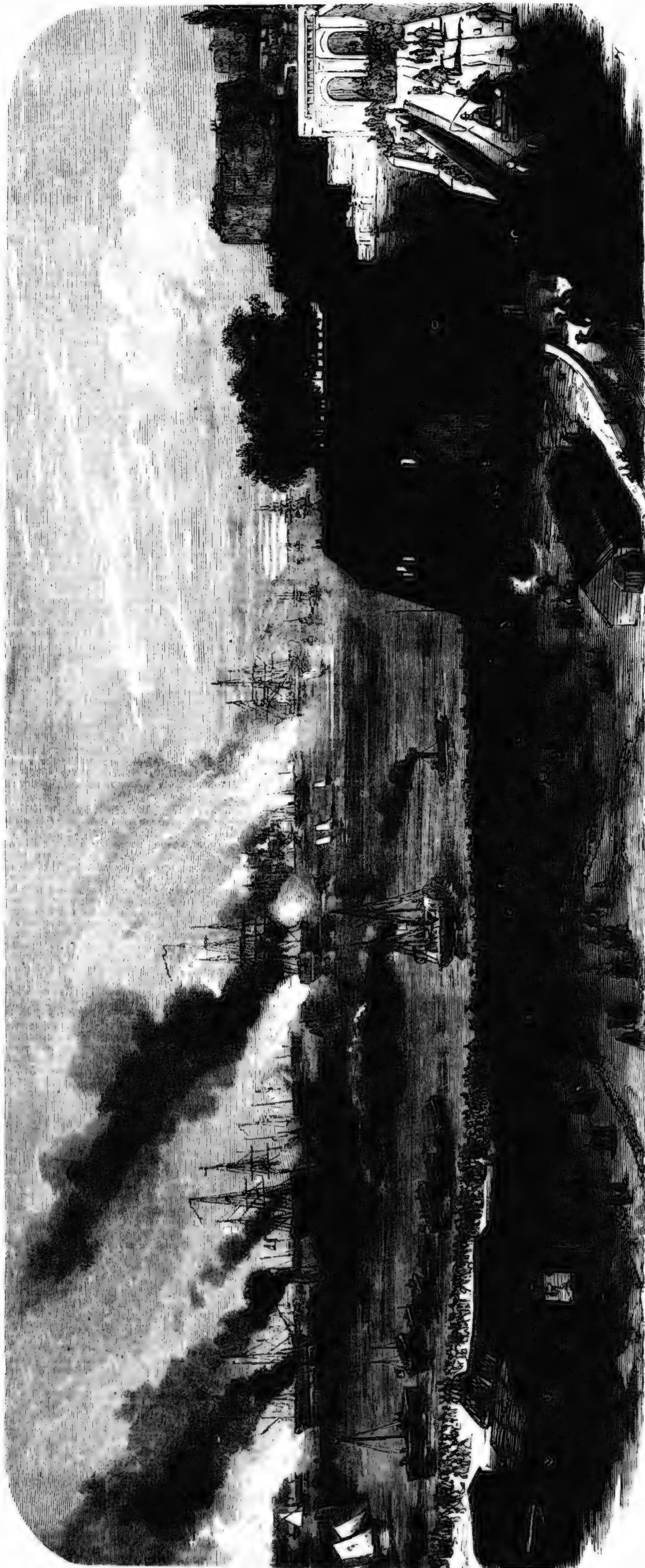
The fêtes concluded by other naval spectacles, which had an interest of their own. First, a great review of the squadron; and afterwards a regatta of sloops and small vessels, which, though rather a slow affair, gave a good deal of satisfaction to the Brest people. On the first and grandest display the weather was unpropitious, and the rain came down in a deluge; but the second event came off under a brighter sky. The Engravings represent both the assembling of the squadrons and that portion of the regatta in which the fishing-smacks bore the most prominent part.

DEATH OF ADMIRAL W. H. SMYTH.—On Saturday, the 9th inst., at his residence, St. John's Lodge, near Aylesbury, there died one whose name will ever be held in high honour in the annals of British science, and whose loss will be deeply felt by a large circle of attached and admiring friends. Although for several years past living in comparative retirement, yet devoted without ceasing, to within a few days of his death, to literary and scientific labours, Admiral William Smyth was at one time an active and prominent member of the scientific life of the metropolis. As president of the Astronomical Society; founder, and subsequently president, of the Geographical Society; vice-president, foreign secretary, and for many years member of the council of the Royal Society; director of the Society of Antiquaries; visitor of Greenwich Observatory; one of the founders of the United Service Institution;—in these and many similar capacities his untiring energy, extensive and varied acquirements, sterling integrity and honour, and his genial, social qualities exercised a great influence for good through the important circle in which he moved. He was born at Westminster on the 21st of January, 1788, entered the Navy at an early age, and served with considerable distinction, in nearly all parts of the world, during the war which terminated in 1815. With a strong natural inclination for scientific pursuits and an aptitude for work rarely equalled, he employed the following ten years in making those surveys of the less known parts of the bed and coasts of the Mediterranean which will ever associate his name with the history of that sea. Retiring, in 1825, from marine life, he entered upon another phase in his scientific career, and commenced, in his observatory at Bedford, that laborious and accurate series of astronomical observations which resulted in the publication of the "Cycle of Celestial Objects," including the "Bedford Catalogue," a work universally acknowledged as one of the best hand-books of practical astronomy extant. Besides hydrography and astronomy, the Admiral was an ardent cultivator of some branches of archaeology, more especially numismatics; but a list of some of the more important of his numerous works will best give an idea of the extent and variety of his researches:—"A Descriptive Memoir of the Island of Sicily," 1824; "Sketch of the Present State of the Island of Sardinia," 1828; "Descriptive Catalogue of a Cabinet of Roman Imperial Large Brass Medals," 1834; "A Cycle of Celestial Objects," 2 vols., 1844; "Atlas Hartwellianus; or, Notices of the Manor and Mansion of Hartwell," 1851; "The Mediterranean; a Memoir Physical, Historical, and Nautical," 1854; "Descriptive Catalogue of a Cabinet of Roman Family Coins," 1856; "Speculum Hartwellianum," 1860; "Addenda to the Atlas Hartwellianus," 1864; "Siderial Chronometrics," 1864. Admiral Smyth married, at Messina, in 1815, the only daughter of Mr. T. Warrington, of Naples, a lady of great accomplishments, and who has been the constant and devoted companion of all his scientific labours.

THE CHOLERA has been very severe in Palestine. The Moslems quietly smoked their pipes and awaited their fate with resignation. The native Christians—Latin, Greek, and Melchites—were panic-stricken, and many of them retreated to Acre and Nazareth. Those who remained tried to propitiate Heaven, and to arrest the plague by extra fasting. Relics, scapularies, and handkerchiefs which had touched the Holy Sepulchre were in great request.

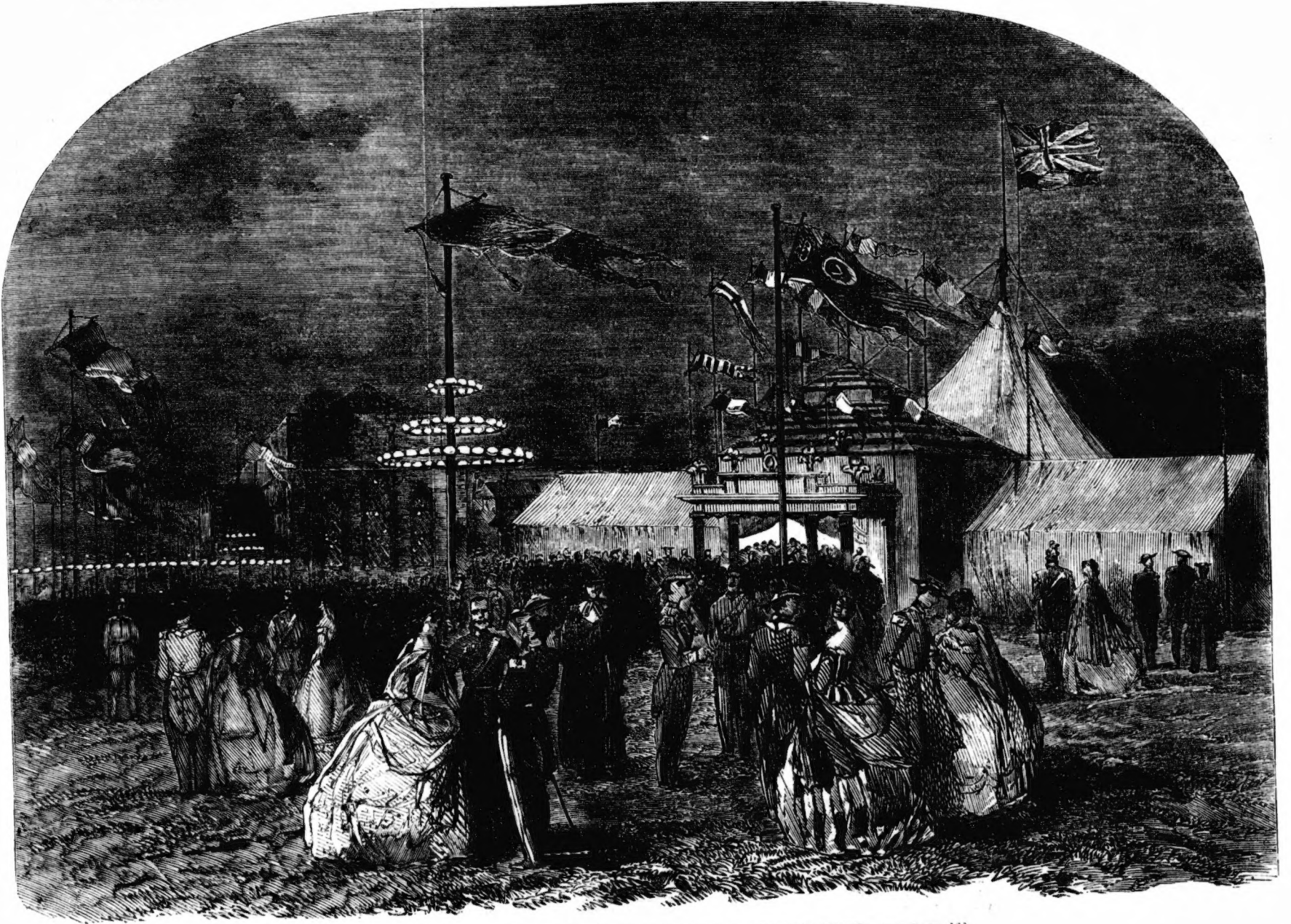


THE FRENCH AND BRITISH FLEETS AT BREST: RACE OF THE FISHING-BOATS DURING THE REGATTA IN HONOUR OF THE BRITISH SQUADRON.

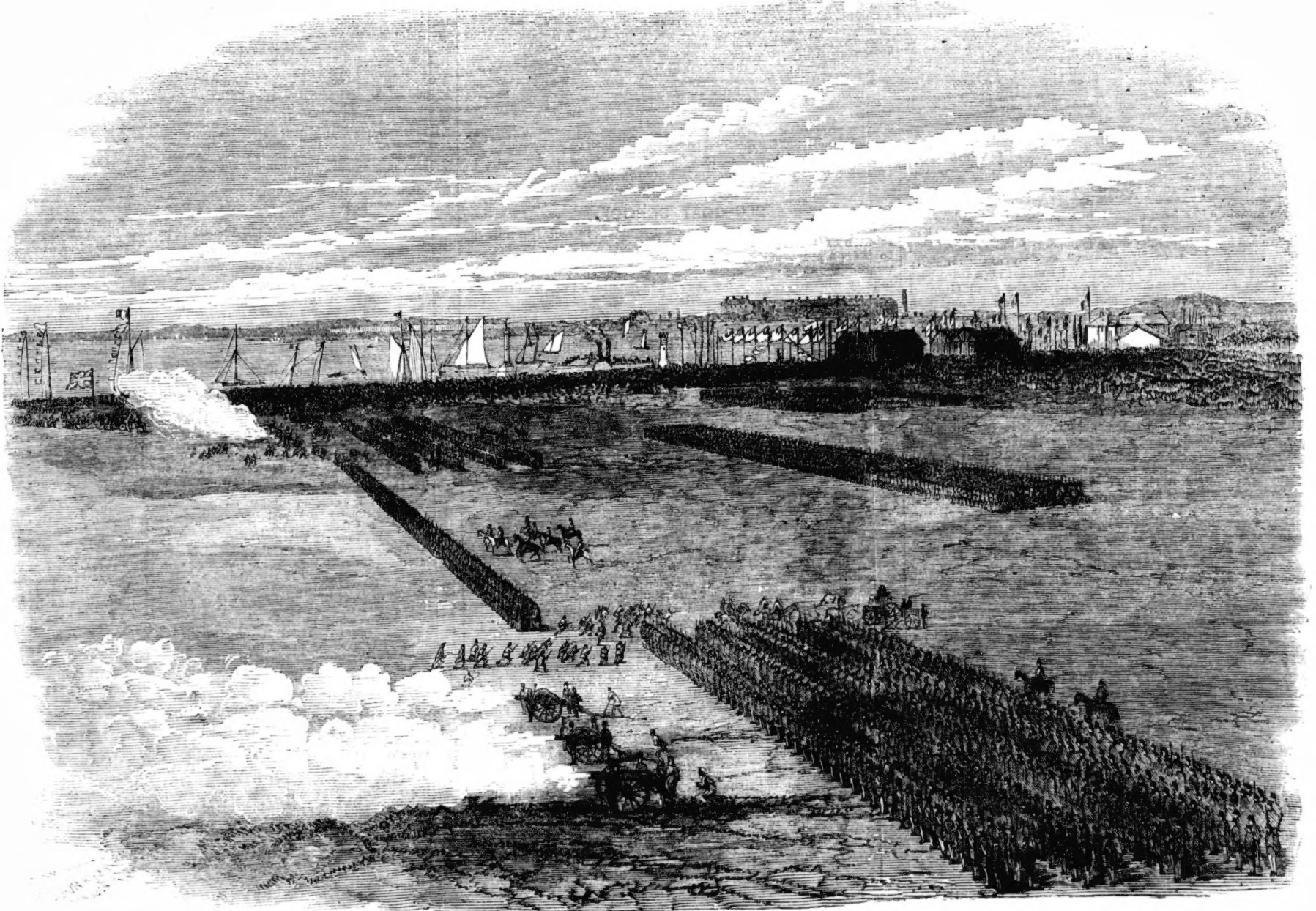


GENERAL VIEW OF BREST ROADS AND OF THE FRENCH AND BRITISH FLEETS.

VISIT OF THE FRENCH FLEET TO PORTSMOUTH.



EXTERIOR OF THE CORPORATION BANQUETING HALL ON GOVERNOR'S-GREEN—SEE PAGE 162.



THE MILITARY REVIEW ON SOUTHSEA-COMMON.—SEE PAGE 162.

MUSICAL MEMORANDA.

THE great musical event of September is the festival of the united choirs, during the celebration of which it is joyously supposed that all England is dying with anxiety to hear how "The Messiah," "The Creation," "Elijah," and other novelties have been executed by (for the most part) inferior singers, at a second-rate country town. The principal London newspapers dispatch their musical critics to the scene of operations, and these gentlemen dash in breathless haste from the cathedral where the oratorios are performed to their hotel, and, after writing vigorously for two or three hours at a stretch, rush from their hotel to the railway station, in order that the metropolis may know, at the earliest possible moment, whether Mr. Lewis or Mr. Cummings has sung in tune. The musical critic has to attend Divine service on the first day of the festival, and to listen to a sermon at each performance of an oratorio—otherwise we do not see how his presence on these occasions can be of much benefit to anyone.

The musical arrangements at Gloucester may be briefly summed up. The solo singers were Mdle. Titens, Mdme. Rudersdorff, Misses Louisa Pyne, Julia Elton, and E. Wilkinson; Herr Gunz, Messrs. W. H. Cummings, Santley, and Lewis Thomas. With these were associated Mdmes. J. K. Pyne and St. Brody, Messrs. Brandon and Thomas. The absence of two very distinguished names from the list of vocalists led to much comment and complaint. What induced Dr. Wesley to dispense with the services of Mr. Sims Reeves, our greatest singer in oratorios, and Mdme. Sainton-Dolby, a contralto still, in sacred music, without an equal, has not been explained. This bold step on the part of the new conductor has been severely and, it will hardly be disputed, fairly censured. At the Hereford festival last year both Mdle. Titens and Mr. Sims Reeves were engaged; Mdme. Lemmens-Sherrington was also one of the principal sopranos, while Mr. Weiss was Mr. Santley's partner in the bass music. And yet Hereford is a poorer town than Gloucester, its festival stands last of the three in importance, and Mr. Townshend Smith had only fifty stewards for the guarantee fund, while Dr. Wesley has had eighty-one. The question of expenditure can, therefore, have had nothing to do with the difficulty. Dr. Wesley may say that, in place of Mdme. Lemmens-Sherrington, he engaged Miss Louisa Pyne; in place of Mr. Weiss, Mr. Lewis Thomas; and in place of Mr. Montem Smith, Mr. W. H. Cummings. Nevertheless, it was hard upon Dr. Gunz, who had never been tried, at least in England, as an oratorio singer, to be put forward as a substitute for Mr. Sims Reeves; and hard upon Miss E. Wilkinson to appear as deputy for Mdme. Sainton-Dolby.

The instrumental orchestra, selected, as usual, from the best London orchestras, was nearly seventy strong. The chorus, besides the members of the three choirs and of the Gloucester Festival Society, included picked singers from all parts of England—from Bradford and York to Bath and Cheltenham.

The festival began with full cathedral service on Tuesday. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday there was early service in the cathedral, at which members of the choirs assisted. On Tuesday, after service, the first festival performance took place. The programme comprised Mendelssohn's "St. Paul," Part I., and the whole of Spohr's "Die letzten Dinge." On Wednesday morning there was a still more varied selection. Three orchestral movements, with a solo and chorus from Mendelssohn's "Lobgesang," followed by the "Requiem" of Mozart, a selection from Herr Schachner's "Israel's Return from Babylon," and another from Beethoven's "Mount of Olives," together with no less than twelve isolated pieces of sacred music by Handel, Spohr, Rossini, Haydn, Gounod, and Wesley, were performed. Thursday morning was devoted to Mendelssohn's "Elijah," and Friday to Handel's "Messiah." At the first of the evening concerts the overtures to Rossini's "La Gazza Ladra," Spohr's "Faust," Beethoven's choral fantasia (pianoforte, Mdme. Arabella Goddard), besides a desultory series of vocal pieces for the principal singers, were given; at the second, a selection from Haydn's "Seasons," Mendelssohn's first pianoforte concerto (Mdme. Goddard), Spohr's overture to "Jesonda," and a series of vocal pieces for the principal singers, the whole concluding with Mendelssohn's "Walpurgis Night." At the third and last concert a selection from "Die Zauberflöte," Spohr's dramatic concerto, the finale from Mendelssohn's unfinished "Loreley," the eighth symphony of Beethoven, a selection from Spohr's "Azor and Zemira," and another series of vocal pieces for the principal singers, were performed.

The following anecdote on the subject of poor Giuglini is told by the *Dritto*, of Florence:—

Three days ago, two Italian gentlemen, whom Giuglini had known at Milan, came to see him at the house of the doctor who has the care of him. He was sitting upon a couch, in a dressing-gown, with a portion of "Faust" in his hands. When they entered, the great singer rose to meet them, grasped them by the hand, and spoke for twenty minutes about London, Paris, Naples, and Milan. During the conversation he expressed himself with clearness and good sense, and nobody would have thought the unhappy man was mad. No sooner, however, did one of the Italians pronounce the words "St. Petersburg" than his eyes began to glitter and stare, and he said, in a strange tone, to his old friends, "Will you go to the Opera, to-night? I will find you seats." The Italians humoured him, and said "Yes." Whereupon, he gave them each a chair, and went out of the apartment. By-and-by he returned, in the costume of Gennaro, and sang, in his own sweet manner, the romance "Anch'io provai le tenere."

The above anecdote has been quoted into all the musical journals of Europe. What is meant by Giuglini holding a "portion" of "Faust" in his hand we cannot quite make out. "Faust" is divided into acts, scenes, pieces (or "numbers," as they are technically called), but is not cut up into "portions," like meat at a third-rate eating-house. Probably the English version of the great Giuglini anecdote is made from the French, and "portion" is a mistranslation for "partition"—i.e., "score." It must be a strange lunatic asylum, moreover, where poor Giuglini is confined, and where operatic costumes are kept for the amusement of the patients. Unfortunately, numbers of operatic singers have gone mad, and the same bit of anecdote has always been told about them that is now being told of poor Giuglini.

A contemporary publishes some remarks on the "lovely woman" question, which is becoming one of the great theatrical questions of the day. Some months ago the public were invited to go to Astley's on the ground that "the adorable Menken" was to be seen there. When Mr. Walter Montgomery undertook the management of the Haymarket Theatre he announced a burlesque in which the public was promised a sight of "the most lovely woman in London." The new idea of inviting public attention to the personal attractions of actresses has not been allowed to drop, and the managers of the Royalty Theatre now advertise a piece in which we are told that "Mr. George Honey will appear, supported by the most charming company of young ladies in London." If these claims to precedence in the matter of female beauty continue to be put forward by theatrical managers, what, it may well be asked, will theatrical critics be expected to say or do? "Will it," it has been asked, "be their business to discuss the loveliness of each young lady individually? and, if so, how, at a distance, and without an introduction, can they possibly do so in a trustworthy manner?" One thing is quite certain; at theatres where the directors avow that they depend so much upon natural charms, artistic merit will not be looked for; and this may have the effect of keeping a very large portion of the public away.

THE ENTENTE CORDIALE.—M. Alfred Assolant has an article in the *Courier du Dimanche* apropos of the fêtes at Cherbourg, Brest, and Portsmouth. The following passage indicates M. Assolant's mode of treating the subject:—"Glory be to God, 'tis all over. The plating of the ships have been compared and found to be of equal thickness. The range of guns was tried and found to be adequate. M. Dupuy de Lôme is content; M. Treuille de Beaulieu satisfied; M. Armstrong is joyful; M. Whitworth happy. The Marquis de Chasseloup-Laubat has embraced the Duke of Somerset and has been embraced by him. There was a good dinner at Cherbourg—a capital one at Brest—great quantities of roast beef at Portsmouth. The Magenta offered her arm to the Warrior, and the Achilles did the same to La Gloire. 'Vive l'Empereur!' and 'Vive la Reine!' were shouted. Port ran like a river and Bordeaux like a stream. They are fine fellows—we are fine fellows—you are fine fellows. Hurrah! Vivat!"

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

MR. TIDD PRATT, the Registrar of Friendly Societies in England, has just made the report of the proceedings of his office for the year 1864—or rather that report has been printed by order of the House of Commons since the month of July, and is now accessible to that large part of the community directly interested in the condition of these unions. Nor is the report without interest to thousands not immediately connected with the societies, but to whom the official returns present reliable data for studying the condition of many classes among whom such inquiries by private persons, however zealously pursued, are beset with difficulties. The law itself, carried into effect by a public officer, is only partially successful in obtaining information as to these bodies. A knowledge of the exact state of the funds and the number of members of each society, published every year, would be a great protection to the working classes themselves, and a considerable check on local abuses. But the wholesome publicity directed by recent legislation is not so readily or generally given by the managers of these societies as it ought to be. The present annual report closes with a complaint by the registrar of the neglect with which the official forms sent to be filled up by the trustees and officers of the societies are treated. Last year 22,511 blank forms were sent out by the Registrar, but only 10,398, considerably less than half, were returned filled up with the details the law requires for publication. The Act of Parliament is certainly a new one, and its object may not yet be clearly understood. Mr. Tidd Pratt ascribes the gross negligence of a duty rendered as easy to perform as it possibly can be to the fact that "it generally happens" the omission to make the return "is owing to the accounts not having been kept or audited." If this be really the case in any large proportion of 10,000 or 11,000 societies, the statement ought to excite the attention of the members of those bodies without loss of time. But the more hopeful view of the present inattention to the requirements of the law is that the meaning of the Act is not yet understood; and this defect is one that time and better knowledge will remove. The law would protect many thousands against fraud if they would take advantage of it, which at present they do not.

Notwithstanding this and other defects in the management of Friendly Societies, the principle on which they are founded is very popular, and the number of the institutions themselves appears to be increasing. During the past year the Registrar received only 120 notices of the dissolution of societies, sixty-five of which have been gazetted as "dissolved," while he has certified the rules of 1056. A still larger number have made alterations in their rules which the registrar has approved. Thus, cases of organisation are far in excess of those of dissolution—an encouraging fact, as it indicates the increase of foresight and provident habits.

The Registrar has still to lament another defect in the management of Friendly Societies, though he hopes the evil is decreasing, and is able to show that the working classes themselves are becoming aware of the injurious consequences of a very old practice. It is that of holding the business meetings of these clubs at a public-house, with the accompanying obligation of drinking for "the good" of the establishment. The score run up is the landlord's rent, and very dearly is the occupation of his room for an evening paid for on these terms. Unfortunately, it is often very difficult to obtain the use of a room on other conditions. On this subject, and that of "anniversaries," Mr. Tidd Pratt thus remarks:—

The Registrar still continues to receive complaints by and on behalf of members of old-established societies with respect to the compulsory payments they are required to make monthly and annually for beer and the anniversary meetings. The place of meeting, as stated on a former occasion, should, if possible, be at some public institution or school-room, and if that cannot be obtained, and there is no other place except an inn or a public-house, a certain fixed payment should be made for the hire of the room, lights, and fire, with a stipulation that no beer, &c., should be brought into the room until all business is concluded, when each member should pay for any refreshment he may require. When an anniversary or annual feast is held, the contribution thereto and attendance therat should be voluntary, though there seems no legal objection to a rule that every member who lives within a given distance should have a ticket sent him, which, if not returned at a certain time, say a week before the day of the feast, he should be required to pay for; but a better plan appears to be for the stewards to keep a book, in which each member who intends to dine should enter his name and pay a monthly contribution for that purpose. This regulation could not be incorporated as a rule, nor would the money subscribed form any part of the funds of the society. As the compulsory payments for beer, &c., are of no benefit to the members, but "for the good of the house," and as no such payments are inserted in any rules certified under the 18th and 19th Victoria, cap. 63, it appears desirable in future legislation to provide that "no such payments should be made, any laws, rules, or regulations of any friendly or benefit society to the contrary notwithstanding." In reports of previous years the Registrar has had to mention instances of large expenditure for drinking purposes, and the evils arising from clubs being held at public-houses, on which subject there has from time to time been considerable discussion in the press and other periodicals; and although the mischief is not now carried on to the extent it used to be a quarter of a century ago, yet the evils now existing are sufficient to call for a desire for a reform in this matter.

As a proof that a feeling against this forced expenditure is growing up, the Registrar quotes a letter on the subject from the organ of the Society of Foresters, in which the effect of the practice in encouraging intemperate habits is fully illustrated.

BLUECOAT SCHOOL.

A QUESTION which arose at the Board of Inland Revenue in relation to the liability to income tax of rents and dividends applied to the purposes of public institutions, caused the Government to instruct the Charity Commissioners to exercise their legal powers of inquiry with respect to a few selected foundations known to the law as charitable. Among the reports which have thus been obtained is one relating to Christ's Hospital, prepared by Mr. Hare. Established by voluntary donations for adapting the Grey Friars' house, granted to the Corporation of London by Henry VIII. for the reception of helpless orphan children, Christ's Hospital gradually, as a legal provision for the poor grew more complete, became appropriated to children of a class above that of parish paupers, but still "without any probable means of being provided for otherwise;" and to this day admission is denied unless a certificate is brought that the child has no adequate means of being educated and maintained. But the character of the class now received may be gathered from a list of the admissions in the three years 1860-2. 192 were the children of professional men—60 of these were orphans; 11 of the families are described as without any income, and the incomes of the other 49 as not exceeding an average of £172 a year; the highest was in the instance of an officer who left a widow and six children with an income under £500 a year. The other 132 were children of professional men still living; the parents of six are stated to have no income, and the income of the remaining 126 averaged less than £244 a year. The highest was £675, with a family of nine children. There were also 293 presentations of children of merchants, tradesmen, and clerks. 84 were orphans, 24 stated to be without any provision, and the families of the remaining 60 having incomes averaging less than £112 a year. The parents of the other 209 were living, but 18 were without provision, and the incomes of 191 are stated to average less than £181 a year; the highest being £230. There were also seven presentations of children of persons of no occupation, with means varying from £150 to £270 a year; and 16 children of journeymen or servants, and seven of persons who had deserted their families. The children of the lower class are generally the nominees on local or special rights of presentation. A similar list was published for 1832-6. It appears that the class of parents has been raised since then in point both of wealth and social position. In regard to the subsequent position in life attained by the boys, it is to be observed that there have always been governors taking an interest in them and endeavouring to promote their success after leaving school, facilitating their reception into banks and establishments accessible to the higher commercial ranks of the City; and Mr. Hare remarks that he should be glad if something of this could be extended to the popular and unendowed schools of the kingdom. The object of the governors seems to have been the advantage of the children selected as objects of their favour rather than the diffusion or extension of the benefits of the charity to the

public at large. This helps to explain the fact that, though the income of the hospital has increased by nearly £15,000 a year since 1837, the number of children has only increased from 1130 to 1148. There is no doubt that the classes from which governors are chosen have a material effect, by the sympathies of class, in determining the classes who are to participate in the charity. How to select administrators who will do justice to the working classes of the poorer sort is a very difficult problem. Mr. Hare thinks that some presentations might perhaps be given to the best conducted benefit societies or trade unions. "It may not be impossible," he observes, "to commit the distribution of the income of property dedicated to the poor, in a great degree, to the management of the poor themselves; and that may practically teach them the true limit and power of external and eleemosynary aid, and its insufficiency to supply in any measure the place of prudence or self-reliance." Mr. Hare proceeds to point out that in several ways it is possible to extend the benefits of Christ's Hospital even in its present form. The value of nearly five acres of ground in the heart of the city of London is so enormous that if the school were removed to some place or places in the suburbs or the country many thousands a year would be gained for educational purposes. If no child were received under the age of ten years, and the children were kept for five instead of eight years, the families whose sons would enjoy the advantages of the institutions would be increased by nearly three eighths in number. Looking at the pecuniary resources of many of the families from which the children are now taken, it is not unreasonable to suppose that some of them would be willing to contribute a portion of the expense of the education of their children, and, perhaps, would even prefer to do so. If 200 or more boys were received with annual payments of £10 or £20, some thousands a year might be added to the funds of the hospital. Schemes of this nature might also include the other vast endowments of educational and charitable institutions in and near London, and funds might be obtained for establishing several superior public schools distributed at convenient points over the outer limits of the metropolis, to be so many centres of education, the number of pupils in each being doubled, trebled, or still more multiplied by receiving day scholars, whose parents would be glad to pay a fair price for such instruction as would be available. The object of all the endowments might thus be obtained by reaching as many as possible and educating them as well as possible. But for her considerations come in. It is the policy of the State to provide means for the education of the children of the destitute classes, and to assist that of the children of the poor. Christ's Hospital has long since ceased in any degree to supply this public exigency. Its large funds, nearly £60,000 a year net income, are now applied to the purpose of taking yearly some 150 children of the better educated and more fortunate classes, and relieving their parents and friends from the sacrifices which they might be obliged to make in order to educate them for occupations considered not inconsistent with gentle rank, or to prevent them from falling to the humbler callings of trade or manual labour. Mr. Hare says he supposes there is not a child in the hospital that would not without an education as the majority of the poor receive; and there are very few probably that would not have been as well educated as the vast majority of the lower middle classes. If a better provision be required for the children of any person or any class than that which the State offers to all, it is the task of individual and personal endeavour, and the privilege of kindred and private affection, to struggle for and secure it. It is the duty of the State to afford equally to all the people the greatest encouragement to strenuous and honest effort. It is an abuse of perpetual endowments to use them for the purpose of creating or maintaining exceptional privileges and advantages. Christ's Hospital is of great advantage to certain classes; whether it shall be administered for the benefit of a small number of favoured persons, or for the poorest classes and the common weal, is a question which must depend upon the action of the Legislature, prompted by the public judgment and conscience.

BREECH-LOADING RIFLES.

IN the early part of last summer Lord De Grey inaugurated what may be considered a revolution in the system of arming the British infantry soldier. When, some ten or twelve years ago, the Enfield rifle superseded the old Brown Bess, it was thought by many that we had reached perfection, and the new gun was fondly designated the queen of weapons. It is unnecessary to say that there was ample foundation for the enthusiasm with which it was regarded. But there is no such thing as finality in mechanical improvements. Those who are fond of investigating the organisation and armament of foreign troops began to think, some few years since, that there was a weapon which, as regards most of the conditions constituting efficiency, would surpass the rifle which had been adopted in the British Army. The Prussian needle-gun was the new beauty that attracted them. The principle of this weapon—that of loading at the breech without the irksome and awkward process incidental to loading at the muzzle—undoubtedly gave an enormous advantage in the way of rapidity. Sportsmen in this country had largely taken to breech-loaders, with the best results upon their bags. But until the early part of last year all this improvement was, to a certain extent, but theoretical and experimental. Soldiers in a campaign cannot bring the same attention to bear upon their weapons as sportsmen. Self-igniting cartridges are dangerous when massed in large quantities. The Prussian weapon wanted the crucial test of a campaign to establish its superiority under those circumstances in which, unless superiority is shown, improvements of this kind are but beautiful toys. The campaign of 1864 fully established the breech-loader as the weapon of warfare. It had every sort of trial to undergo in the shape of a severe winter campaign, and it came out triumphantly. The head of our Army administration was vigilant, and quick to turn his vigilance to practical account. As is well known, Earl De Grey immediately formed a committee, composed of some of the cleverest and most experienced officers, and they unanimously reported in favour of the breech-loader. Then the point was to turn to account our immense stock of Enfields on hand, and mechanics were invited to send in tenders for the conversion of the service rifle into a breech-loader. Fifty tenders were sent in, of which all but eight were rejected at an early stage. Of the eight which remained five were on the principles of capping, while three were on that of self-igniting cartridges. But of the latter two were put out of the trial from exceptional circumstances, leaving but one weapon to represent the breech-loader in its most complete form. With regard to rapidity of firing, the weapon in question, as devised by Mr. Snider, easily outstripped all its competitors. It was something more than three times as efficient in this respect as the Enfield, while none of the capping systems were twice as efficient, with the exception of Mr. Green's, which still, however, was much below that of Mr. Snider. It took seven minutes and twenty seconds to fire twenty rounds out of the Enfield. Three capping breech-loaders, those of Montsturm, Wilson, and Westley-Richards, did it in from 4.23 to 4.44. Mr. Green's fired twenty rounds in 3.18, but from Mr. Snider's rifle the same result was obtained in 2.25. It follows, therefore, that, with other conditions equal, a battalion armed on Mr. Snider's plan could fire three shots for every one fired by a battalion armed with the existing Enfield. But there are other important conditions besides rapidity of firing, and unfortunately the Enfield, as altered into a breech-loader, does not fulfil them as well as in its unconverted state. In point of accuracy it fails, its mean deviation being 5.00 as compared with 1.64. This is a serious defect, and of course, until it is remedied, no considerable amount of our stock of Enfields will undergo conversion. For the present only 1000 are to be subjected to the process. Happily we have no occasion to be in a hurry, and there seems a reasonable probability that before long we shall have an improved weapon which will combine the accuracy of the present rifle with three times its rapidity. It may be—indeed we had better prepare for the contingency—that we may have to manufacture an entirely new stock of rifles upon the breech-loading plan. If it is necessary, it must be done; it is a destructive economy to send our troops into the field with an inferior weapon; and whatever may be the cost, we cannot hesitate about buying so important an element in warlike efficiency.—*Globe*.

THE LATE JUDGE HALIBURTON.—We omitted to state that the Portrait of Judge Haliburton, published in our last Impression, was from a photograph by Mayall.

STATUE OF JENNER AT BOULOGNE.—On Monday was inaugurated a statue erected in honour of the English physician, Dr. Jenner, by the united exertions of a society of savans in Paris and the municipal corporation of Boulogne-sur-Mer. The statue stands on a marble pedestal about 12 ft. high, and measures nearly 10 ft. in height. It is of iron, bronzed by galvanic aid. The pose of the figure, which is clothed in the costume of 1810, is easy. The head is slightly inclined, as though absorbed in thought. In the right hand he holds a lancet; the left hand reposes on a pile of treatises placed on a pedestal, from which depends the sketch of a cow. The right foot is firmly placed over the word "Angleterre," while the left is advanced over the word "France." On the border of the groundwork is inscribed the name "Jenner," and on the pedestal is inscribed "à Edward Jenner, la France reconnaissante, 11me Septembre, 1865."

BRIGHTON and BACK for THREE
SHILLINGS, EVERY SUNDAY and MONDAY, from
LONDON BRIDGE, Victoria, and Kensington Terminus, at 9 a.m.
Children under 12 years of age, half price. No luggage allowed.
The last Excursion this season will be on Sunday 24th, and
Monday, 25th September.

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SHILLINGS and SIXPENCE, EVERY SUNDAY, by the
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The last Excursion this season will be on Sunday, September 24.

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SHILLINGS and SIXPENCE, EVERY SUNDAY, by the
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MDME. LEMMENS-SHERBINGTON will
sing "The only I love" (F. Abt), and "Hark! the goat-
bells ringing" (H. Smart), at Weymouth, Sept. 15; at Sherborne,
Sept. 16; at Taunton, Sept. 17; at Weston-super-Mare, Sept. 19; at
Cardiff, Sept. 20; at Swansea, Sept. 21; at Haverfordwest, Sept. 22;
at Tenby, Sept. 23; at Leicester, Sept. 25; at Nottingham, Sept. 29;
at Sheffield, Sept. 30.

THE ONLY I LOVE. Song. (F. Abt.)
2s. 6d. Free for 16 stamps.

HARK! THE GOAT-BELLS RINGING.
Duetto. (H. Smart). 3s. Free for 19 stamps.
London: ROBERT COOKS and Co., New Burlington-street, W.
All Musicians.

MR. ALFRED MELLON'S CONCERTS.
ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT-GARDEN, EVERY
EVENING AT EIGHT.—LAST WEEK BUT ONE.—Mollie
Carotta, Patti, Mlle. Krebs, Sig. Bottesini, and Mr. Levy. On
Monday next, a special night, when will be performed the Power
of Sound Symphony, &c. On Thursday next, a classical night,
selections from the works of Mozart and Mendelssohn. Tuesday,
Wednesday, and Friday, Miscellaneous night. Saturday, Sept. 30,
Last Night of the Concerts and Benefit of Mr. Alfred Mellon.
Conductor, Mr. Alfred Mellon. Admission One Shilling.

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THEATRE OF MYSTERY, EGYPTIAN HALL.—Miracle
of Magic and Ventriloquism, by Colonel STODARE. The Real
Indian Basket Trick and Instantaneous Growth of Flower Trees,
as introduced, for the first time in this country, on Easter Monday,
April 17, 1865, by Colonel Stodare, and only performed by him and
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Stalls at 1s. 6d.; 3s. 6d. Box-street, and Box-office, Egyptian
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"Almost miraculous."—*Vide "Times,"* April 18, 1865.

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FUCHOW GIANT, his name is CHANG. He has arrived
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